

COMPREHENSIVE IMPLEMENTATION REPORT ON NATIONAL YOUTH DAY CELEBRATIONS – 12TH JANUARY 2026

West Bengal State Legal Services Authority (WBSLSA)

INTRODUCTION

In strict compliance with the directives of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) and to commemorate the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda observed as National Youth Day, the West Bengal State Legal Services Authority (WBSLSA) coordinated statewide programmes across all 23 Districts during the period leading up to and on 12th January 2026. The celebrations focused on sensitizing youth and communities on access to justice, free legal aid, drug prevention through the NALSA (DAWN – Drug Awareness and Wellness Navigation for a Drug-Free India) Scheme, 2025, and youth empowerment inspired by Swami Vivekananda's ideals of self-confidence, service, harmony, and nation-building. Activities included awareness camps, rallies, interactive sessions, street plays, stalls, and outreach to schools, colleges, correctional homes, and vulnerable groups.

Core Objectives

- To sensitize youth on their pivotal role in society and the importance of leading a drug-free, disciplined life.
- To create widespread awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse, wellness navigation, health consequences, and preventive measures under the DAWN Scheme.
- To inform participants about eligibility for free legal services (including women, children, SC/ST, marginalized groups, persons in custody, etc.) and mechanisms such as NALSA Toll-Free Helpline 15100 and other support lines (1933, 14446).

- To promote community-led actions, interactive discussions, rallies, street plays, digital campaigns, and grassroots outreach to empower youth and foster social responsibility.

EVENT ORGANIZED BY WEST BENGAL STATE LEGAL SERVICES

A Free Legal Aid Services Camp was organized by Heritage Law College in association with WBSLSA on 12th January 2026 at Bagdoba Primary School Building, Bagdoba Village (near Kolkata Leather Complex). The programme commenced with a felicitation ceremony honoring dignitaries including Shri Shyamal Gupta (former District Judge), Smt. Poonam Singhi (Deputy Secretary, WBSLSA), and learned advocates Ms. Sucheta Mitra, Ms. Indumouli Banerjee, and Ms. Sibangi Chattopadhyay. Shri Shyamal Gupta delivered a detailed address on the objectives and functioning of NALSA, SLSA, and DLSA, categories eligible for free legal aid, and the relevance of Swami Vivekananda's principles of harmony, cooperation, and collective responsibility in modern society. A dedicated counselling and legal interaction session followed, where villagers presented their individual problems including divorce, property disputes, domestic violence, dowry-related issues, and local governance matters such as Panchayat road problems. Free consultations and procedural guidance were provided by the dignitaries and advocates, with active assistance from approximately 20 law interns from WBSLSA and students from Heritage Law College. The camp successfully facilitated direct engagement with the grassroots community,

enhancing access to justice and empowering rural residents.



District-wise Implementation Reports

ALIPURDUAR

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Alipurduar, observed National Youth Day on 12th January 2026, with preparatory activities commencing on 10th January 2026. A major Legal Awareness Camp was organized at Vivekananda College, presided over by the Ld. Additional District & Sessions Judge (cum Judge, Special POCSO Court), Ld. Additional District & Sessions Judge (2nd Fast Track), Ld. Secretary, DLSA, Para-Legal Volunteers (PLVs), the Principal, professors, and students. Speakers emphasized the pivotal role of youth in nation-building, drawing inspiration from Swami Vivekananda, and discussed key legislations including the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, and the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. The Ld. Secretary highlighted the functioning of free legal aid services and access to justice. Additionally, PLVs conducted 12 grassroots awareness drives across tea gardens, tribal areas, forest regions, schools, and Gram Panchayat areas to reach the most vulnerable beneficiaries.



BANKURA

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Bankura, observed National Youth Day through youth-centric awareness activities from 5th to 12th January 2026, with a key Legal Awareness Programme held on 10th January 2026 at Kapistha High School, G. Ghati Block. The programme, titled “Say Yes to Life, No to Drugs”, was designed to sensitize students on the provisions of the NALSA (DAWN – Drug Awareness and Wellness Navigation for a Drug-Free India) Scheme, 2025. Panel Advocate Billeswar Sinha, assisted by PLV Sudipa Banerjee, educated a total of 97 students about the harmful effects of drug abuse, associated helpline numbers (1933, 14446, 15100), and their right to free legal aid from DLSA Bankura for any issues. The session concluded with an interactive Q&A where students raised queries, which were promptly addressed, making the programme highly engaging and impactful.



BIRBHUM

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Birbhum (Suri), observed National Youth Day 2026 under the NALSA (DAWN – Drug Awareness and Wellness Navigation for a Drug-Free India) Scheme, 2025, through a series of awareness programmes and related activities conducted from 5th January to 12th January 2026 across multiple colleges and other locations. These initiatives included interactive sessions, speeches by panel advocates and officials, community engagement, floral tributes to Swami Vivekananda, and group discussions aimed at sensitizing youth on drug prevention, wellness, legal rights, and social responsibility. The programmes reached diverse groups of students and participants in educational institutions, fostering awareness through visual aids, presentations, and direct interactions.

COOCH BEHAR

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Cooch Behar, organized a significant legal awareness programme on 6th January 2026 at A.B.N. Seal College, Cooch Behar, with active participation from a large number of college students. The Secretary, DLSA, and Para-Legal Volunteers (PLVs)

delivered detailed speeches emphasizing the importance of National Youth Day, Swami Vivekananda's ideals, drug prevention, legal rights of youth, and access to justice. The event featured interactive discussions and community engagement, effectively promoting a drug-free lifestyle and youth empowerment .



DAKSHIN DINAJPUR

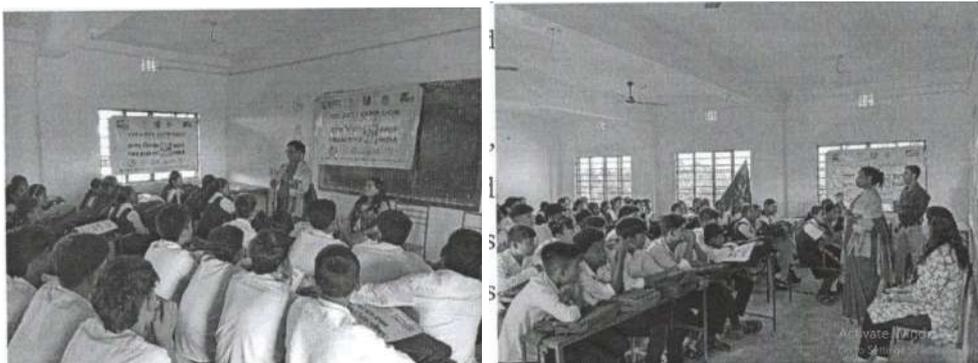
The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Dakshin Dinajpur, actively observed National Youth Day on 12th January 2026 through extensive PLV-led awareness and outreach activities under the DAWN Scheme. Multiple camps, rallies, and mobile campaigning were conducted across various blocks and locations, including Nandan Niketan Home (with participation of the Hon'ble District Judge and Secretary), Raghunathpur, Bahadur Pur ICDS Center, football ground Office Para (Uday G.P.), Panjul village, Kushmandi Block, Balurghat Block (including High School area), and Gangarampur Block. Key topics covered included drug abuse prevention, eradication of child marriage, prevention of child trafficking and violence against women, and promotion of children's hygiene and cleanliness. The initiatives, led by PLVs such as Anjali Hemrom, Khaybor Mondal, Sabnam Khatun, Arup Kumar Sarkar, Puja Das, Md. Nur Islam,

Golam Rabbani, Umed Ali, and Dipa Das, empowered youth and communities through interactive discussions and community-led actions.



DARJEELING

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Darjeeling, observed National Youth Day on 12th January 2026 by organizing a Legal Awareness Programme at Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar High School, Mulaijot, Bagdogra, Siliguri, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The programme honoured Swami Vivekananda's birthday with the message "Arise, Awake and stop not till the goal is reached", assisted by PLVs/Adhikar Mitra Sri Shyamal Das and Ms. Margarate Horo. Resource persons including Smt. Sanchita Madam (SI, Matigara Police Station), the school Principal, and other dignitaries addressed approximately 150 participants (primarily students) on youth's role in driving green innovation and climate action, combating child marriage, human trafficking, drug addiction, child labour, domestic violence, law and order, and access to legal assistance. Interactive Q&A and distribution of awareness leaflets made the session highly engaging.



HOOGLHY

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Hooghly, observed National Youth Day on 12th January 2026 by organizing a DAWN Programme at Polba Mahavidyalaya, Polba under Chinsurah Sub Division. The programme aimed to sensitize students and young participants about the harmful social, physical, and legal consequences of substance abuse and the importance of a healthy, disciplined lifestyle. It included an awareness drive, brief interactive sessions, and widespread promotion of the slogan “Say No to Drugs” through discussions and slogans. Para-Legal Volunteers and DLSA officials actively participated, ensuring enthusiastic engagement and effective promotion of youth empowerment aligned with Swami Vivekananda’s ideals.

HOWRAH

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Howrah, in coordination with the Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committee (SDLSC), Uluberia, and Para-Legal Volunteers (PLVs), observed National Youth Day through a series of legal awareness programmes under the DAWN Scheme from 6th to 12th January 2026. Events were held at multiple locations including Hijli Kalyan Kendra (CCI Home), near Howrah Municipal Corporation, Bantra Police

Station, Domjur Police Station, Sankarhati-I Gram Panchayat, Harali Udaynarayanpur Gram Panchayat, Howrah Hospital, Howrah Fulmela, J.B. Pur Police Station, Netaji Subhas Road, Bagnan Khanpur, Bhandergacha Mohila Sangha, Khanjadapur Primary School, Pancharul Village, and Basantapur Village. Participants, particularly youth and local community members, were sensitized on legal rights and duties, access to justice, the role of legal services institutions, and schemes under the Legal Services Authorities Act, with special emphasis on drug prevention and wellness.



JALPAIGURI

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Jalpaiguri, conducted a comprehensive week-long observance from 5th to 12th January 2026 under the DAWN Scheme and NCB's "Say Yes to Life, No to Drugs" e-Pledge Initiative. Activities included sensitization programmes at Ananda Chandra College and Prasanna Deb Women's College (approximately 250 students), where the Ld. Secretary, DLSA, Chief of Legal Aid Defence Counsel, principals, and a medical lecturer discussed legal, social, health, and psychological aspects of drug abuse. A week-long digital media campaign was run through Jalpaiguri Press Club. On 12th January, a rally was organized. Approximately 1,000 DAWN pamphlets were distributed across all activities.



JHARGRAM

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Jhargram, observed National Youth Day from 5th to 13th January 2026 under the DAWN Scheme by setting up a Legal Literacy and Awareness Stall at the Jhargram Book Fair (7th–13th January 2026), managed by Adhikar Mitras (PLVs) to disseminate information on drug prevention and legal aid. Additionally, a dedicated Legal Awareness Programme was held on 9th January 2026 at Vivekananda Memorial Institution Ground (under Binpur Police Station), attended by 156 participants including CHO, ANMs, and Anganwadi Workers. The event was graced by the Ld. Family Judge, Secretary, DLSA, Ld. Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.), S.D.P.O. Belpahari, I.C. Binpur, ACMOH, and D.C.P.O., with discussions on drug abuse prevention and youth empowerment.



KALIMPONG

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Kalimpong, observed National Youth Day on 12th January 2026 under the DAWN Scheme by organizing a Legal Awareness Programme at the District Correctional Home, Kalimpong. The programme targeted 108 inmates, with Ld. Advocate Mrs. Chung Chung Doma Bhutia as the chief spokesperson alongside the Superintendent. Discussions focused on drug prevention, wellness navigation, legal rights, access to justice, and rehabilitation, emphasizing the role of youth in building a responsible society and the importance of preventive measures against substance abuse.



KOLKATA

On the occasion of National Youth Day, 2026, the District Legal Services

Authority, Kolkata, in collaboration with Vidyasagar College, Kolkata, organised a Debate Competition with the objective of promoting legal awareness among students and sensitising the youth regarding constitutional values, legal rights, and responsibilities under the Indian judicial system.

The debate competition was organised under the theme “Rehabilitation vs Punishment: What Works Better for Young Drug Users?”, a topic of significant contemporary socio-legal relevance. The programme aimed to encourage informed dialogue among young participants on reformative justice, de-addiction, and humane legal responses to drug abuse, in alignment with the objectives of the DAWN (Drug Awareness and Wellness Navigation) Scheme.

A total of 30 students participated individually in the debate, while approximately 80 students attended the programme as audience. The event was also attended by members of the teaching faculty of Vidyasagar College and other dignitaries.

The programme was inaugurated by the Ld. Secretary, DLSA Kolkata and Former District Judge, Sri Shyamal Gupta, who graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. In his keynote address, Sri Gupta highlighted the significance of National Youth Day, the pivotal role of youth in nation-building, and emphasised the importance of adopting rehabilitative and reformative approaches rather than purely punitive measures while addressing issues related to young drug users. His address provided valuable legal insights and encouraged students to approach social issues with empathy and responsibility.

As part of the awareness initiative, the students also participated in the NCB’s “Say Yes to Life, No to Drugs” e-Pledge through the online platform, reinforcing their commitment towards a drug-free society.



MALDA

In observance of National Youth Day, 2026, the District Legal Services Authority, Malda, organised a series of Legal Awareness Camps under the DAWN Scheme at various educational institutions and community locations across the district to promote awareness on drug abuse and legal rights.

Under the supervision of the Ld. Secretary, DLSA Malda, Sri Amartya Chakraborty, awareness programmes were conducted at Mohodipur High School, Narhatta G.S. High School, Nijgoa Araidanga Free Primary School (Ratua-II Block), Gobindapara Primary School (Chanchal-II Block), Enayetpur G.P., Mominpara-I ICDS Centre, and Nurpur G.P., Manikchak Block between 6th and 9th January, 2026.

Through these camps, students and community members were sensitised on the harmful effects of substance abuse, preventive measures, and the availability of free legal aid services. The programmes witnessed active participation and effectively contributed to legal literacy and youth awareness in the district.



MURSHIDABAD

In observance of National Youth Day, 2026, the District Legal Services Authority, Murshidabad, organised a series of Awareness and Outreach Programmes under the NALSA DAWN Scheme in collaboration with local NGOs at various locations within the district between 5th January and 12th January, 2026.

Legal awareness programmes were conducted at Sargachi (Beldanga P.S.), Bahadurpur High School (Bhagowangola P.S.), Kandi Raj High School (Kandi P.S.), Baninathpur village (Berhampore P.S.), and Dhuliyani Sahara Foundation (Samserganj P.S.), in the presence of Ld. Panel Advocates, members of the DAWN Unit, and Para Legal Volunteers of DLSA/SDLSCs concerned.

During the programmes, participants were sensitised about the significance of National Youth Day, the ill effects of drug abuse, and the legal services and schemes provided by NALSA. Emphasis was laid on prevention, rehabilitation, and the objective of achieving a Drug-Free Society. The programmes witnessed active participation from students and local residents across different blocks of the district.



NADIA

The District Legal Services Authority, Nadia, observed National Youth Day, 2026, by organising a Legal Awareness Programme under the DAWN Scheme with the objective of promoting awareness among youth regarding drug abuse, its legal consequences, and the availability of free legal aid services.

The programme focused on educating participants about the harmful effects of substance abuse, preventive measures, and the importance of informed and responsible decision-making. Officials associated with DLSA actively interacted with participants and disseminated information regarding various legal aid schemes and support mechanisms available to the youth.

The programme was attended by students and members of the local community and contributed to enhancing legal literacy and social awareness within the district.



NORTH 24 PARGANAS

The District Legal Services Authority, North 24 Parganas, observed National Youth Day, 2026, through multiple Legal Awareness and Outreach Programmes conducted under the DAWN (Drug Awareness and Wellness Navigation) Scheme between 5th January and 12th January, 2026, in collaboration with educational institutions and SDLSCs.

A major legal awareness programme was organised at Sister Nivedita University, wherein students were sensitised on issues relating to drug abuse and legal remedies. The programme was graced by the presence of the Ld. Chairman, DLSA, North 24 Parganas, Ld. Secretary, DLSA, and other judicial officers and dignitaries.

Additionally, legal awareness camps were organised at various locations including Shyamnagar, Barrackpore, Basirhat, Naihati, Ghuni High School (Hasnabad), Bankra F.P. School (Hingalganj), and Panpur Makumlal High School, Barrackpore, focusing on Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan and the objectives of the DAWN Scheme.

Through these programmes, students and community members were made aware of the adverse effects of drug abuse, preventive strategies, and the role of legal services institutions in promoting a drug-free society.



PASHCHIM BARDHAMAN

In compliance with the directions of NALSA and under the aegis of State Legal Services Authority, West Bengal, the District Legal Services Authority, Paschim Bardhaman, observed National Youth Day, 2026 by organising multiple awareness programmes under the DAWN (Drug Awareness and Wellness Navigation) Scheme during the period from 5th January to 12th January, 2026.

The main programme was organised on 09.01.2026 in collaboration with Asansol Engineering College, Asansol, and was attended by the Ld. District & Sessions Judge-cum-Chairman, DLSA, Paschim Bardhaman, the Ld. Secretary, DLSA, medical and mental health professionals from the Department of Health, Government of West Bengal, and members of the academic community. The participants were sensitised about the objectives of National Youth Day, the DAWN Scheme, and the importance of mental health, education, and rehabilitation in addressing substance abuse among youth.

In addition, awareness programmes were conducted at Searsol Girls' High School, Raghunath Chak Hindi High School, and Ballavpur Ramgopal Saraf Vidyapeeth High School, wherein students were apprised of the ideals of Swami Vivekananda, the ill effects of drug addiction, and the role of youth in nation-building.



PASHCHIM MEDINIPUR

The District Legal Services Authority, Paschim Medinipur, observed National Youth Day, 2026 by undertaking legal awareness and sensitisation activities under the DAWN Scheme, with the objective of promoting awareness among youth regarding the adverse effects of drug abuse and the importance of adopting a healthy and responsible lifestyle.

Through outreach and interaction with students and community members, emphasis was laid on preventive measures, rehabilitation, and the availability of free legal aid services. The observance aimed at inspiring youth to uphold the ideals of Swami Vivekananda and contribute positively towards building a drug-free society



PURBA BARDHAMAN

The District Legal Services Authority, Purba Bardhaman, observed National Youth Day, 2026 through a series of awareness programmes and outreach activities aimed at promoting youth participation and legal awareness.

On 10.01.2026, a Cycle Rally followed by a Legal Awareness Camp was organised at Kanchannagar D.N. Das High School, in collaboration with Purba Bardhaman Cycling Club (NGO), wherein approximately 250 students participated.



PURBA MEDINIPUR

In compliance with the directions of NALSA and SLSA, West Bengal, the District Legal Services Authority, Purba Medinipur, observed National Youth Day, 2026 by organising a series of Legal Literacy and Legal Awareness Programmes under the NALSA (DAWN – Drug Awareness and Wellness Navigation) Scheme, 2025 during the period from 7th January to 12th January, 2026.

A central programme was held at Tamralipta Mahavidyalaya (Tamluk College), where students were sensitised on the objectives of the DAWN Scheme, prevention of drug abuse, and issues relating to youth mental health. Judicial officers, legal aid functionaries, medical professionals, and college authorities participated in the programme.

In addition, multiple outreach programmes were conducted by Para Legal Volunteers across educational institutions, public places, villages, and de-addiction centres within the district. The sessions covered topics such as drug awareness, child protection, gender-based violence, cyber crime, and availability of free legal aid services.

The programmes witnessed wide participation from students and members of the community and contributed effectively to promoting legal awareness, youth empowerment, and the objective of a Drug-Free Society.



PURULIA

The District Legal Services Authority in Purulia spearheaded a series of engaging awareness programs to mark National Youth Day. These initiatives spanned schools, student clubs, and villages, complemented by lively rallies across the district. In partnership with local NGOs through the DAWN (Drug Awareness and Wellness Navigation) program, the events emphasized empowering communities, particularly youth, to lead healthier lives. Central to the activities was promoting the motivational slogan "Say Yes to Life, No to Drugs," alongside distributing vital helpline contacts to offer immediate support and guidance for those affected by substance issues. The programs successfully reached a wide audience, fostering greater public consciousness on drug prevention and wellness.



SOUTH 24 PARGANAS

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) of South 24 Parganas organized a comprehensive series of events to commemorate National Youth Day, focusing on youth empowerment and drug awareness. From January 5 to January 12, 2026, the authority collaborated with local Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) under the DAWN (Drug Awareness and Wellness Navigation) initiative to conduct various legal awareness programs across the district.

These activities included interactive sessions in schools and student clubs, where young participants were educated on the legal implications of substance abuse and encouraged to adopt positive lifestyles. Outreach extended to villages, ensuring rural communities were included through community meetings and discussions. Additionally, public rallies were held throughout the district, drawing large crowds and amplifying the message through marches and speeches.

Central to all programs was the sensitization of the general public to the slogan "Say Yes to Life, No to Drugs." The DLSA actively disseminated key national helpline numbers—1933, 14446, and 15100—to provide accessible support for individuals seeking help with drug-related issues. Photographs documenting these events were compiled to capture the engagement and impact.

Through these efforts, the DLSA South 24 Parganas successfully fostered greater awareness and community involvement, aligning with state directives and contributing to a healthier, more informed society.



UTTAR DINAJPUR

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) of Uttar Dinajpur organized the observance of National Youth Day 2026 under the DAWN Scheme (Drug Awareness and Wellness Navigation) from January 5 to 12, 2026. The program aimed to raise awareness among youth and students about the harmful effects of drug abuse, promote drug-free lifestyles, and highlight legal, wellness, and rehabilitation support options.

Events were held at community venues like Baruna Pranpriya Uchcha Vidyalaya, Saktinagar Baul Maidan, and Bishnupur Gram Panchayat, as well as school sites including Khukra MSK, Solpara High School, Kanki Shree Jain Vidya Mandir, Hatiya High School, and Goyalal Girls High School. Collaborators included de-addiction centers such as Kaliyaganj Progoti, Raiganj Unity Foundation, Bamoir Bishnupur Vivekananda Smriti, Mukti Foundation, and Nirvana Home, along with NGO CINI for school

programs. Resource persons featured the DLSA Secretary, an intern, lawyers Ananya Jha and Lukman Ali, institutional staff, and center representatives.

Activities encompassed distributing awareness leaflets, conducting quizzes, screening educational videos, hosting drawing and essay competitions on drug-free themes, and facilitating interactive discussions. Speakers emphasized the physical, mental, social, and legal impacts of drug abuse; the need for early prevention; the roles of family, schools, and society; and available support through de-addiction centers and legal authorities.



CONCLUSION

The National Youth Day 2026 celebrations across West Bengal were a resounding success, reaching thousands of youth, students, inmates, community workers, and vulnerable groups through targeted DAWN Scheme outreach, awareness camps, rallies, street plays, stalls, and interactive engagement. By integrating Swami Vivekananda's teachings with practical efforts toward a drug-free and empowered society, WBSLSA and the DLSAs reaffirmed their commitment to NALSA's vision of justice and wellness for all.
