



RIGHTS OF A PERSON WITH MENTAL ILLNESS OR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES IN CONTACT WITH POLICE



(Disability-sensitive and person-centric legal services)



Do's

- The police officer who receives a complaint or otherwise comes to know of abuse, violence, or exploitation against any person with disability shall inform the aggrieved person of their right to free legal aid under Section 7(4)(c) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and Section 27 of the Mental Healthcare Act (MHCA), 2017 and right to apply for protection, the particulars of the Executive Magistrate having jurisdiction to provide assistance, and details of the nearest organisation or institution working for rehabilitation.
- The police station shall maintain details of the *Legal Services Unit for Persons with Mental Illness & Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (LSUM/Manonyay)*, including contact numbers, at all police stations within the district.
- Relevant IEC material on the rights of persons with mental illness and intellectual disabilities shall be displayed at all police stations and outposts within the district.
- The police officer shall immediately send a request for legal services to DLSA in cases where the person with mental illness or intellectual disability is unrepresented.
- The police officer shall take into protection any person found wandering within the limits of the police station whom the officer has reason to believe has a mental illness and is incapable of taking care of themselves, or is a risk to themselves or others by reason of mental illness.
- The police officer shall inform the person who has been taken into protection of the grounds for doing so, or shall inform their nominated representative.
- The police officer shall take a person with mental illness who has been taken into protection under Section 100(1) of the MHCA, 2017 to the nearest public health establishment as soon as possible, but not later than 24 hours, for assessment of their healthcare needs.
- If a person with mental illness is found homeless or wandering in the community, the police officer shall lodge a missing person FIR at the concerned police station. The SHO shall trace the family of such person and inform them of the person's whereabouts.

LSUM (Manonyay)

Email:

Contact No.:

DLSA

Email:

Contact No. :

Nearest Mental Health Establishment (MHE)

Email:

Contact No. :

**NALSA Legal Aid
Helpline: 15100
Mental Health Helpline
(Tele-MANAS) : 14416**



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✗ Dont's

- Under no circumstances shall a person with a mental illness or intellectual disability be detained in the police lock-up or sent to the prison.
- The police officer shall not subject a person with mental illness or intellectual disability to cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment, including forcing them to undertake work, compulsory tonsuring, or wearing uniforms provided by the institution.
- The police officer shall not discriminate against a person with mental illness or intellectual disability on any ground, including gender, sex, religion, culture, caste, social or political beliefs, class, or disability.
- The police officer shall not disclose or release any photograph or information relating to a person with mental illness or intellectual disability to the media without the explicit consent of such person.
- The police officer shall not restrict the right of a person with a mental illness or intellectual disability to refuse or receive visitors, or to refuse or receive and make telephone calls at reasonable times.

“Every person with mental illness deserves dignity, legal protection, and access to justice.”

NALSA Helpline Toll-Free Number: 15100, Child Helpline Number: 1098, E-mail ID: nalsa-dla@nic.in