DISTRICT LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
WEST JAINTIA HILLS DISTRICT

No. WJHD/DLSA.77/LSD/2025/21, Dated: 17th September, 2025.

Invitation for Participation in the National Photography & Art Showcase
"Justice for All: Through the Lens of Legal Aid"
In Commemoration of National Legal Services Day, 2025

To mark three decades of dedicated service by the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) in advancing access to justice, and in commemoration of National Legal Services Day, 2025, NALSA is organizing a **National Photography & Art Showcase** titled "**Justice for All: Through the Lens of Legal Aid**".

This initiative aims to highlight—through creative expression—the critical role of legal aid in promoting access to justice. It also seeks to sensitize the wider public to the lived experiences of those who have benefited from legal services.

As part of this **nationwide campaign**, submissions are invited in the form of:

- **Photographs**
- **Paintings**
- **Sketches**
- **Short videos (maximum duration: 1 minute)**

The showcase encourages participants to capture **everyday struggles, resilience, and stories empowerment** that have been made possible through legal aid. Selected entries will be exhibited during the National Conference scheduled to be held on 8th and 9th November 2025.

A Concept Note—along with indicative sub-themes and detailed guidelines—is enclosed for your reference.

In view of the above, entries are invited from:

- **Legal aid professionals**
- **Members of the legal fraternity**
- **Students**
- **Para-legal volunteers**
- **General public.**

The last date for submission is **8th October, 2025** and Submissions can be made either:

- **In person at the Office of the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), West Jaintia Hills, or**
- **Via email to: dlsa-jowai@meghalaya.gov.in**

We look forward to your enthusiastic participation in this meaningful and creative endeavour.

Encl: As stated above.

Sd/-
Secretary,
District Legal Services Authority,
West Jaintia Hills District.

CONCEPT NOTE

NALSA National Photography & Art Showcase:

Justice for All: Through the Lens of Legal Aid

1. **Background and Rationale:**

Access to justice is the cornerstone of a democratic society. Legal aid, as guaranteed under Article 39A of the Constitution of India, ensures that the marginalized and disadvantaged are not denied justice due to socio-economic barriers. The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has been at the forefront of providing free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of society, thereby actualizing the promise of "Justice for All."

While significant progress has been made, the human stories behind these efforts often remain untold. Art, whether through photography, painting, sketches, or videos (*maximum duration 1 minute*), has a unique power to capture and communicate these narratives beyond language and literacy. A National Photography & Art Showcase on *Justice for All: Through the Lens of Legal Aid* will create a visual archive of how legal services impact lives across India.

This initiative aims to combine art with social justice, engaging photographers, legal aid professionals, students, and the wider public in narrating the story of access to justice.

2. **Objectives:**

- To use visual art as a medium to document and highlight the reach and impact of legal aid services across India.
- To provide a platform for artists, photographers, students, para-legal volunteers, legal aid fraternity, and community members to showcase their perspectives on justice.
- To sensitize the public on the role of legal services authorities in addressing everyday struggles of marginalized communities.
- To build a visual repository that can be used for advocacy, awareness, and training by NALSA and State Legal Services Authorities.
- To commemorate National Legal Services Day through an innovative, creative, and participatory format.

3. **Theme: *Unifying Theme: "Justice for All: Through the Lens of Legal Aid" & Indicative Sub-Themes:***

All entries for the Showcase must connect with the **Unifying Theme**: *"Justice for All: Through the Lens of Legal Aid."* To guide participants, the Showcase is divided into broad **Categories** with indicative **Sub-Themes** in English and Hindi. These sub-themes are indicative and meant to inspire creativity and provide direction. Artists are free to choose either the English or Hindi version of the sub-themes while preparing their entries.

Category A: Voices of Dignity

- **Women turning rights into lived realities through legal aid.**
    i. **Her Right, Her Justice,**
    ii. उसका हक़, उसकी ताक़त
    iii. समानता से सम्मान

- **Legal aid protecting innocence and shaping futures.**
    i. **Children First,**
    ii. **Nourish to Flourish**
    iii. नन्हे कदम, बड़ा न्याय,
    iv. बचपन सुरक्षित, भविष्य सुनिश्चित

- **Persons with disabilities accessing equality and respect.**
    i. **Breaking Barriers,**
    ii. *बाधाओं से परे, अधिकार हमारे*

- **Senior citizens finding protection and care through legal aid.**
    i. **Ageing with Respect,**
    ii. बुज़ुर्गी का सहारा, कानून का किनारा

- **Indigenous and tribal communities safeguarding land and culture.**
    i. **Roots and Rights,**
    ii. जंगल, ज़मीन और न्याय

- **Legal aid as a bridge between despair and hope.**
    i. **Bridges, Not Walls,**
    ii. *न्याय से आशा तक, एक सफ़र*

Category B: Justice Where Life Happens or Equal Rights for Ordinary Lives

- **Migrant workers rely on legal aid for wages, housing, and dignity.**
    i. **Migrant Voices, Legal Choices,**
    ii. सफ़र और सहारा,
    iii. घर से दूर, हक़ है ज़रूर

- **How documents open doors to survival and justice.**
    i. **Identity is Justice,**
    ii. पहचान है अधिकार
    iii. अधिकार से आधार

- **Workers, farmers, and laborers securing livelihoods through legal aid.**
    i. **Dignity of Work,**
    ii. मेहनत का मोल, न्याय का तोल,
    iii. "मज़दूरी का मान, सम्मानित इंसान"

- **Victims of crime and families seeking healing and support.**
    i. **Justice for Survivors,**
    ii. *न्याय के संग, नए सवेरे की ओर*

- **Rural and urban struggles meet at the doorstep of justice.**
    i. **Two India's, One Justice,**
    ii. *गाँव-शहर संग न्याय का सफ़र,*
    iii. *गाँव हो या शहर, न्याय एक सहचर*

Category C: Pathways of Justice

- **Undertrials and prisoners finding dignity and reform through legal aid.**
    i. **Justice Behind Bars,**
    ii. सलाखों के भीतर उम्मीद

- **Legal aid in prisons ensuring dignity, reform, and second chances.**
    i. **Chains to Change,**
    ii. **Beyond Punishment, Towards Reform**
    iii. बेड़ियों से बदलाव *तक*

- **Lok Adalats and mediation fostering dialogue, dignity, and shared solutions in the spirit of community justice.**
    i. **Justice Around the Table,**
    ii. संवाद से सुलह, न्याय संग,
    iii. संवाद से समाधान

- **Lawyers, para-legal volunteers, and beneficiaries as the lifeblood of justice.**
    i. **Faces of Legal Aid,**
    ii. साथी, सहारा, न्याय का चेहरा
    iii. **Courts Wherever You Are**

Category D: Horizons Ahead

- **E-Services and e-Lok Adalats expanding legal aid access everywhere.**

    i. **Digital Justice,**
    ii. **Legal Aid Anywhere, Anytime**
    iii. **स्क्रीन पर अदालत, क्लिक में सहारा**

- **Digital justice bringing the court closer to the citizen.**

    i. **Nyay@click,**
    ii. **न्याय का नया युग**
    iii. **Rights at Your Fingertips**
    iv. **Tech Connects; Justice Protects**

- **Communities protecting the environment, land, and survival through law.**

    i. **Right to Land, Right to Life,**
    ii. **धरती से जीवन, न्याय से भविष्य**

NOTE:

1) Participants may interpret freely to capture both challenges and stories of empowerment.

2) Participants can only submit paintings/photographs/sketches/ videos.

3) The videos must not exceed **1 minute in duration**, and should be submitted in an **editable format** (e.g., MP4/MOV).

4) A **maximum of three entries, including the video entry, shall be permissible to be submitted by each participant to the respective DLSAs**.

Categories of Participants:

i. ***Legal Aid & Justice Fraternity*:** (Legal Services Authorities, Legal Aid Counsels, Para-Legal Volunteers, Judicial Officers, Court Staff, and associated institutions).

ii. ***Students & Youth Creators**:* (School students, university/college students, and individuals in the early stages of exploring photography or art).

iii. ***Community Lens**:* (Open category for the public, including entries captured through mobile photography to reflect everyday experiences of justice and rights).

Guidelines:

i. Only Original, unpublished Photographs/ Paintings/ Sketches/ Videos (*maximum duration 1 minute*) shall be submitted. Each DLSA is to disseminate a call for entries at its level. Each entry must carry a mandatory caption along with a small, brief explanation of the context and the chosen sub-theme.

ii. A maximum of three (3) entries, including video entries, can be submitted by a participant **to District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs).** All file attachments should be named by the participant in the format: ***Lastname_Firstname_Category of Participant- (e.g., Sharma_Anita_Para Legal Volunteer)*** and must be sent to the concerned DLSA with the subject line: *"Submission to National Photography and Art Showcase."*

iii. The participant should submit their photograph, painting, and sketch entries in High-Resolution digital files (JPEG/PNG, minimum 300 dpi).

iv. Video entries (*maximum duration 1 minute*) must be submitted in **MP4 or MOV format**, minimum resolution **720p (HD)**, preferred **1080p (Full HD)**, with file size not exceeding **100 MB**. Clear audio (if included) is essential, and participants must ensure that no copyrighted material is used. Videos (*maximum duration 1 minute*) should be suitable for editing (editable format) and integration into NALSA's awareness resources.

v. Consent for images/persons featuring identifiable individuals must be taken by participants.

vi. All entries- Photographs, Paintings, Sketches, or Videos (*maximum duration 1 minute*) submitted for participation in the National Photography & Art Showcase will become the sole property of the National Legal Services Authority. NALSA shall have the right to use, reproduce, publish, or display the entries in any form for awareness, outreach, or archival purposes, without further permission or compensation to the contributor.

vii. <u>Selection Criteria</u>:

- **Total Marking Scheme – 30 Marks**
- **Creativity (10 marks)** – originality, innovation, and artistic expression in the photograph/ painting/ sketch/ video (*maximum duration 1 minute*).
- **Adherence to Guidelines (10 marks)** – compliance with the entry requirements stated above.
- **Relevance to the Theme/Sub-theme (10 marks)** – clarity in connecting the entry to the unifying theme and the chosen sub-theme.

viii. Forwarding of Entries to DLSAs:

a) Participants shall submit their entries to the concerned **office of the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA)** in the respective Districts as per the given guidelines.

b) A **maximum of three (3) entries (including video entries),** from each of the three categories of participants will be considered.

4. The Exhibition:

Exhibition would entail:

- *Physical*: Display of selected Photographs/ Paintings/ Sketches/ Videos in a central venue during the National Conference.
  - Photography Prints: Maximum 16x24 inches or 24x18 inches

- Paintings/Sketches: Maximum size 24x36 inches (to ensure portability and uniform display).

  - *Digital Gallery*: Permanent section on NALSA's website.

7. Outcomes and Impact:

- Creation of a visual archive on access to justice in India.
- Enhanced public awareness about free legal aid and its impact.
- Production of a Coffee Table Book / Calendar featuring the best entries.
- Potential integration of selected Photographs and Videos into awareness campaigns, training material, and public communication by NALSA.

8. Conclusion:

The **National Photography & Art Showcase** will not only distinctively commemorate Legal Services Day but also create a long-lasting cultural resource that captures the journey of justice in India. By weaving together law, art, and lived experience, this initiative by NALSA will reaffirm the collective commitment to *Justice for All*.