



“FRAMES OF JUSTICE”

National Youth Reel & Short Film Competition

GUIDELINES

NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

“Frames of Justice” – National Youth Reel & Short Film Competition Guidelines

1. Statutory and Institutional Background

- 1.1. The initiative is organised in furtherance of Section 4(l) of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, which mandates NALSA to take appropriate measures for spreading legal literacy and legal awareness, particularly among weaker and marginalised sections of society.
- 1.2. The competition draws inspiration from judicial and parliamentary emphasis on innovative, mass-oriented and digital outreach mechanisms for strengthening public awareness regarding legal aid and access to justice.
- 1.3. The present initiative builds upon NALSA's prior experience in youth-driven digital outreach and is designed as a structured, zone-wise national competition.

2. Objectives of the Competition

The competition aims to:

- a. Promote awareness of NALSA's Preventive and Strategic Legal Services Schemes.
- b. Encourage creative and regionally contextualised legal communication by youth.
- c. Create a reusable national repository of high-quality legal awareness content.
- d. Strengthen institutional linkage between law colleges and Legal Services Authorities.
- e. Integrate digital advocacy tools into sustained legal literacy outreach.

3. Scope and Eligibility

- 3.1. The competition is open to undergraduate and postgraduate students enrolled in recognised law colleges and universities across India.
(In the event that any region, does not have a recognized law college/university in its jurisdiction, the competition may be extended to students of all colleges.)
- 3.2. Participation shall be routed exclusively through institutional channels:
Law College → DLSA → SLSA → NALSA
- 3.3. Direct individual submissions to NALSA shall not be entertained.
- 3.4. Each participant or team shall be permitted to submit only one entry in one category.

4. Categories and Format

- 4.1. Participants may submit an entry in either of the following categories:

(A) Reel / Vertical Video

- Maximum Duration: 90 seconds
- Suitable for short-form digital dissemination

(B) Short Film / Explainer Video

- Maximum Duration: 3 minutes (180 seconds)
- Narrative, documentary-style or case-based explainers permitted

4.2. Entries exceeding the prescribed duration shall be liable for disqualification.

5. Technical Specifications – Video Format & Submission Standards

To ensure uniformity, quality and ease of dissemination across digital platforms, the following technical parameters shall be adhered to:

- i. **Permissible File Formats:** Entries shall be submitted in MP4 or MOV format only.
- ii. **Resolution:** Minimum resolution of 1080p (Full HD) is recommended. Videos of visibly poor resolution or distorted quality may be liable for rejection.
- iii. **Aspect Ratio:**
 - o Reel / Vertical Video: Preferably 9:16 (vertical format).
 - o Short Film / Explainer Video: 16:9 (horizontal format) preferred.
- iv. **File Size:** The file size should be optimised for digital transfer and dissemination. SLSAs may prescribe a reasonable upper limit (e.g., 500 MB) to facilitate email/cloud submission.
- v. **Subtitles:** All entries in regional languages shall mandatorily include accurate English subtitles embedded within the video.
- vi. **Opening Slide (Recommended)**
Each video may begin with:
 - Title of the video
 - Name of Participant(s)
 - Name of Law College
 - State
 - Allocated Theme
- vii. **Prohibited Elements:**
 - o Watermarks of any kind
 - o Political symbols or party insignia
 - o Background music infringing copyright
 - o Any logo other

6. Zonal Structure and Thematic Allocation

- 6.1. The competition shall be conducted on a zone-wise basis (North, South, East, West).
- 6.2. Each State shall disseminate the theme(s) allocated to its respective Zone.
- 6.3. Participants must strictly adhere to the assigned theme.

7. Evaluation Framework

- 7.1. Evaluation shall be conducted in three stages:
 - a) Initial Screening – DLSA
 - b) State-Level Evaluation – SLSA
 - c) Final Evaluation – NALSA

7.2. Entries shall be assessed on:

- 1) Accuracy and clarity of legal content
- 2) Relevance to assigned scheme/theme
- 3) Creativity and originality
- 4) Communication effectiveness
- 5) Ethical sensitivity and inclusiveness
- 6) Suitability for public dissemination

7.3. SLSAs may adopt a structured scoring sheet internally based on the evaluation criteria to ensure transparency and documentation.

7.4. Each SLA shall forward: 2 best entries per category to NALSA.

7.5. Decisions at each level shall be final and binding.

8. Content Requirements

8.1. Entries must be original works of the participants.

8.2. Any plagiarism, unauthorised reproduction, or direct copying—including replication of existing content generated through artificial intelligence tools—shall render the entry liable for disqualification at any stage.

8.3. Content must:

- a) Be factually accurate and legally sound
- b) Be suitable for dissemination among diverse audiences
- c) Avoid obscenity, vulgarity, defamation, or objectionable material
- d) Maintain dignity of vulnerable and marginalised communities

8.4. Submissions in regional languages must mandatorily include English subtitles.

9. Copyright and Intellectual Property

9.1. Upon submission, all copyright and related intellectual property rights in the entry shall vest irrevocably with NALSA.

9.2. NALSA shall have the right to use, reproduce, adapt, translate, edit, display, broadcast and disseminate the content across all media platforms for legal awareness, training and outreach purposes.

9.3. Participants shall not be entitled to royalty or remuneration for such use, though due acknowledgement may be given.

10. Awards and Recognition

10.1. Zone-wise (for each category):

- ₹10,000 – Winner
- ₹5,000 – Runner-Up

10.2. Certificates of participation shall be issued for all valid entries.

10.3. Selected entries may be disseminated through official digital platforms of NALSA, SLSAs and DLSAs.

10.4. Commendation and felicitation of winners and runners-up by Hon'ble Executive Chairman, NALSA On a date to be decided by the Hon'ble Executive Chairman, NALSA.

11. Role of SLSAs in Dissemination

11.1. SLSAs shall:

- a. Nominate a Nodal Officer for coordination.
- b. Ensure timely dissemination to DLSAs and TLSCs.
- c. Coordinate outreach to recognised law colleges.
- d. Conduct fair and documented State-level evaluation.
- e. Forward shortlisted entries to NALSA within the prescribed timeline.
- f. Maintain record of participation and evaluation proceedings.

12. Rules, Safeguards and Legal Conditions of Participation

12.1. Limitation on Entries

(a) Each participating student or team shall be permitted to submit only one entry in one category, either:

- Reel / Short Video (not exceeding 90 seconds), or
- Short Film / Explainer Video (not exceeding 3 minutes).

(b) Multiple submissions by the same participant/team in the same or different categories shall not be permitted and may result in disqualification.

12.2. Originality and Plagiarism

(a) All entries must be original works of the participants.

(b) Any form of plagiarism, unauthorised reproduction, direct copying, or replication of existing content — including material generated through artificial intelligence tools based on pre-existing works — shall render the entry liable for disqualification at any stage of the competition.

(c) Participants shall be solely responsible for ensuring originality and lawful use of any music, visuals or third-party material incorporated in the submission.

12.3. Content Standards

(a) The content of submissions must be:

- Factually accurate;
- Legally sound;
- Suitable for public dissemination.

(b) Entries shall not contain any material that is obscene, vulgar, defamatory, anti-national, contrary to public policy, or otherwise objectionable.

(c) The content must maintain ethical sensitivity, inclusiveness and respect for the dignity of individuals and communities, particularly vulnerable and marginalised groups, and shall avoid stereotyping, sensationalism or misrepresentation.

12.4. Language and Technical Compliance

(a) Submissions in regional languages must mandatorily include English subtitles.

(b) All entries must comply with the technical specifications prescribed in the competition guidelines.

(c) Entries shall be submitted only through the institutional channel notified by the concerned DLSA/SLSA within the stipulated timeline. Direct submissions to NALSA shall not be entertained.

12.5. Copyright and Intellectual Property

(a) By submitting an entry, the participant shall be deemed to have irrevocably assigned and transferred all copyright and related intellectual property rights in the submitted content to the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).

(b) Such assignment shall include the right to use, reproduce, adapt, translate, edit, display, broadcast, disseminate the content, in whole or in part, across all present and future media platforms for legal awareness, training, outreach and other public interest purposes.

(c) Upon submission, the participant shall relinquish all proprietary rights in the work and shall not be entitled to any royalty, remuneration or other claim against NALSA in respect of its use.

12.6. Publication and Dissemination Rights

NALSA shall be entitled to publish, share and disseminate shortlisted and winning entries through:

- Official NALSA platforms;
- SLSA and DLSA platforms;
- Governmental and public broadcasting platforms;
- Outreach campaigns and publications, and any other medium as deemed appropriate.

12.7. Administrative Discretion

NALSA reserves the right to:

- Modify the rules, timelines or process of the competition;
- Cancel or reschedule the competition, in whole or in part, in view of administrative exigencies or unforeseen circumstances, with due intimation through appropriate institutional channels.

12.8. Acceptance of Conditions

Participation in the competition shall be free of cost.

Submission of an entry shall constitute unconditional acceptance of all rules, safeguards and conditions governing the competition.

THEMES

North Zone	Jammu & Kashmir	1. NALSA (Legal Services to Victims of Acid Attacks) Scheme, 2016 2. NALSA (Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation) Scheme, 2015 3. NALSA DAWN (Drug Awareness and Wellness Navigation for a Drug Free India) Scheme, 2025 4. Undertrial Prisoners [Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)/ Guidelines for UTRCs]
	Ladakh	
	Himachal Pradesh	
	Punjab	
	Haryana	
	Chandigarh	
	Uttarakhand	
	Uttar Pradesh	
	Delhi	
South Zone	Karnataka	1. NALSA Scheme on Access to Justice for Victims of Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC), 2025 2. Community Mediation and Litigation-free village 3. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 4. NALSA Supporting Potential and Resilience of the Unseen, Held-back and Affected (SPRUHA) Scheme, 2025
	Telangana	
	Andhra Pradesh	
	Odisha	
	Tamil Nadu	
	Kerala	
	Lakshadweep	
	Puducherry	
East Zone	West Bengal	1. NALSA (Legal Services to Senior Citizens) Scheme, 2016 2. NALSA (ASHA- Awareness, Support, Help and Action) Standard Operating Procedure - Towards Eliminating Child Marriage, 2025 3. NALSA SAMVAD Scheme, 2025 4. Early Access to Justice at Pre-Arrest, Arrest and Remand Stage
	Sikkim	
	Assam	
	Arunachal Pradesh	
	Nagaland	
	Manipur	
	Mizoram	
	Tripura	
	Andaman & Nicobar	
	Meghalaya	
	Bihar	
	Jharkhand	
West Zone	Rajasthan	1. Scheme for Para-legal Volunteers 2. Veer Parivar Sahayata Yojana 2025 3. The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 4. Legal Aid Defense Counsel Scheme
	Madhya Pradesh	
	Gujarat	
	Maharashtra	
	Chhattisgarh	
	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	
	Daman & Diu	
	Goa	

INDICATIVE TIMELINE

13th February, 2026 (National Women's Day/ Birth Anniversary of Sarojini Naidu)	Formal launch of the National Reel & Short Film Competition on Legal Awareness on the occasion of National Women's Day.
13th February – 17th February, 2026	Issuance of detailed guidelines and themes by NALSA and orientation of SLSAs through email and virtual briefing.
18th February – 25th February, 2026	Dissemination of the competition framework by SLSAs to DLSAs / TLSCs and onward outreach to law colleges within their respective jurisdictions.
26th February – 25th March, 2026	Promotion of the competition by DLSAs and law colleges; preparation and submission of entries by participating students to their respective law colleges.
26th March – 02nd April, 2026	Initial screening at the law college / DLSA level and <u>forwarding of shortlisted entries to the concerned SLSAs.</u>
03rd April – 12th April, 2026	State-level evaluation by SLSAs and <u>submission of zone-wise shortlisted entries to NALSA.</u>
13th April – 20th April, 2026	Final evaluation and selection of winners and runners-up at the national level by NALSA.
20th April to 25th April, 2026	Declaration of results, intimation to winners
26th April to 8th May, 2026	Audio-video compilation of entries, Event coordination, preparation of certificates, etc.
Date to be decided (by His Lordship, Hon'ble Executive Chairman, NALSA)	Commendation and felicitation of winners and runners-up by Hon'ble Executive Chairman, NALSA, along with showcasing of selected entries

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