GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
TELANGANA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
Nyaya Seva Sadan, 1st & 2nd Floor, Near Nagamata Temple, Gate No.2, High Court Premises,
Hyderabad - 500 066
E-Mail: telenganaslsa@gmail.com
Website:www.tslsa.telangana.gov.in

CH. PANCHAKSHARI,
MEMBER SECRETARY
(District & Sessions Judge)

ROC.No.2687 /TSLSA/2025, Date: 10.06.2025

Sir/Madam,

Sub:- NALSA (JAGRITI - Justice Awareness for Grassroots Information and Transparency Initiative) Scheme, 2025 - Status and details of the **Constitution of JAGRITI Units** and Format A, by the DLSAs - Requested - Reg.

Ref:-1. NALSA Lr.F.No.L/08/2025/NALSA/538/I, Dated:01.05.2025
2. NALSA e-mail letter dated: 9th June, 2025

***

Adverting to the captioned subject and reference, this Authority vide e-mail dated: 26.05.2025, communicated the **NALSA (JAGRITI - Justice Awareness for Grassroots Information and Transparency Initiative) Scheme, 2025,** with a request to download the said Scheme from the Official Website and to take measures to widespread dissemination in your respective units by involving the legal services functionaries and concerned stakeholders.

In this regard, NALSA, vide letter under reference 2nd cited, has requested to constitute JAGRITI Units and Format A reports.

Therefore, I request you to **constitute the JAGRITI units under your jurisdiction and Format A reports to this Authority on or before 30.06.2025,** for submitting the same to NALSA, as requested.

Yours faithfully,

10/6/25

MEMBER SECRETARY

Encl: NALSA letter along with Format - A

To
The Chairpersons of District Legal Services Authorities in the State of Telangana.

DISTRICT LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY, YADADRI-BHUVANAGIRI

Endt. Dis.No. 551 /DLSA/2025 Date : 19.06.2025

//COMMUNICATED//

with a request to constitute JAGRITI Units at Mandal level as per Scheme provision 5(b) by following the guidelines prevailed under the scheme and submit report in Annexure Format-A by 28.06.2025 and requested to download the copy of the Scheme from the district website.

To
All The Chairman, MLSCs, Ramannapet, Chotuppal, Alair.

SECRETARY 19/6/25

DISTRICT LEGAL SERVICES AUTHO... .I
YADA... ...UVANAGIRI

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
TELANGANA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
Nyaya Seva Sadan, 1st & 2nd Floor, Near Nagamata Temple, Gate No.2, High Court Premises,
Hyderabad – 500 066
E-Mail: telenganaslsa@gmail.com
Website:www.tslsa.telangana.gov.in

CH. PANCHAKSHARI,
MEMBER SECRETARY
(District & Sessions Judge)

ROC.No.2687 /TSLSA/2025, Date: 10.06.2025

Sir/Madam,

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In this regard, NALSA, vide letter under reference 2nd cited, has requested to constitute JAGRITI Units and Format A reports.

Therefore, I request you to **constitute the JAGRITI units under your jurisdiction and Format A reports to this Authority on or before 30.06.2025,** for submitting the same to NALSA, as requested.

Yours faithfully,

10/6/25

MEMBER SECRETARY

Encl: NALSA letter along with Format – A

To
The Chairpersons of District Legal Services Authorities
in the State of Telangana.

Gmail

telenganastatelegal servicesauthority <telenganaslsa@gmail.com>

Submission of Format A under the NALSA (JAGRITI – Justice Awareness for Grassroots Information and Transparency Initiative) Scheme, 2025 by 15.07.2025.

1 message

NALSA <nalsa-dla@nic.in> Mon, Jun 9, 2025 at 12:25 PM
To: Puducherry SLSA <msutplsa@gmail.com>, Punjab State Legal Services Authority <ms@punjab.gov.in>, Punjab State Legal Services Authority <ms@pulsa.gov.in>, Rajasthan SLSA <rslsajp@gmail.com>, Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority Jaipur <rj-slsa@nic.in>, Sikkim SLSA <sikkim_slsa@live.com>, Tamil Nadu SLSA <tnslsa@nic.in>, Tamil Nadu SLSA <tnslsa@gmail.com>, Telengana SLSA <telenganaslsa@gmail.com>, Tripura SLSA <tslsaagt@gmail.com>, upslsa <upslsa@nic.in>, Uttarakhand SLSA <ukslsanainital@gmail.com>, West Bengal SLSA <wbstatelegal@gmail.com>

To,

The Member Secretary
All State Legal Services Authorities

Sir/Madam,

This is with reference to the *NALSA (JAGRITI – Justice Awareness for Grassroots Information and Transparency Initiative) Scheme, 2025*, which was formally launched by NALSA on 26th April 2025 during the Celebrations of Three Decades of NALSA and the Western Regional Conference held at Gujarat. Further, to facilitate effective implementation, an orientation programme on the Scheme was conducted on 08th May 2025.

As outlined in the provisions of the Scheme, every District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) and Taluk Legal Services Committee (TLSC) were required to constitute JAGRITI Units and DLSA was required to submit **Format A** to the respective State Legal Services Authority (SLSA) within one month of the Scheme's implementation. The said format captures essential information regarding the establishment and functioning of these Units.

In view of the above, you are kindly requested to forward to NALSA the **Format A reports** as received from all the DLSAs under your jurisdiction.

It is therefore requested that the said reports be furnished to NALSA **on or before 15th July 2025** through email.

Warm regards,

Yours Sincerely,

Bharat Parashar

Directed to circulate to all the DLSAs & MLSCs to constitute units as per guidelines & submit on or before 30/6/25

TELANGANA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
2923
09 JUN 2025
RECEIVED
High Court Premises, Hyderabad

NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
B BLOCK, GROUND FLOOR,
ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS COMPLEX
SUPREME COURT OF INDIA, NEW DELHI-110001

COMMUNICATION ADDRESS:
JAISALMER HOUSE
26, MAN SINGH ROAD, NEW DELHI-110011
PH. NO.-011- 23382778, 23071450
FAX NO.-011-23382121

To know more about National Legal Services Authority - Click here

ANNEXURES

FORMAT A: REPORT ON CONSTITUTION OF DISTRICT AND TALUK UNITS

(To be submitted by DLSA to SLSA upon the constitution of District and Taluk Legal Awareness & Outreach Units.)

1. General Information

- **State:** _____
- **District:** _____
- **Date of Submission:** _____

2. Constitution of District Legal Awareness & Outreach Unit (District Unit)

- **Date of Establishment:** _____
- **Chairperson (DLSA):** _____
- **Members of the District Unit:**

Name	Designation	Department/Office	Contact Information
1.			
(Add rows as required)			

- **Roles and Responsibilities Assigned to the Unit:**
  - _____
  - _____

3. Constitution of Taluk Legal Awareness & Outreach Unit (Taluk Unit)

- **Number of Taluks Covered:** _____
- **Date of Establishment:** _____
- **Chairperson (TLSC):** _____
- **Members of Each Taluk Unit:**
  (Separate tables for each Taluk Unit as needed)

Taluk Name: _____

Name	Designation	Department/Office	Contact Information
1.			
(Add rows as required)			

- **Roles and Responsibilities Assigned to the Unit:**
  - _____

4. Training & Orientation Conducted

- **Date of Training for District Unit:** _____
- **Date of Training for Taluk Units:** _____
- **Resource Persons Involved:** _____
- **Key Topics Covered:** _____


न्याय सब के लिए
ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL
NALSA (JAGRITI) SCHEME, 2025
Justice Awareness for Grassroots Information and Transparency Initiative



NALSA (JAGRITI - JUSTICE AWARENESS FOR GRASS-ROOTS INFORMATION AND TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE) SCHEME, 2025

NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

B. R. Gavai
Judge, Supreme Court of India
&
Executive Chairman,
National Legal Services Authority

B-Block, Ground Floor
Administrative Buildings Complex
Supreme Court of India, New Delhi-110001

FOREWORD

As a nation founded on the ideals of justice, equality, liberty and fraternity, we must constantly strive to translate these constitutional promises into the lived experience of every citizen. In a vibrant democracy like ours, the strength of our institutions depends not only on their design but also on the awareness and participation of the people they serve.

NALSA (JAGRITI - Justice Awareness for Grassroots Information and Transparency Initiative) Scheme, 2025, is a visionary step toward building an informed and empowered citizenry. This is not merely a scheme; it is a movement. A movement that empowers people to know their rights, to recognize injustice and to act with knowledge backed confidence.

In my view, JAGRITI is grounded in a powerful democratic belief: that citizens are not just beneficiaries of justice, but active participants in its realization. The Scheme seeks to institutionalize legal awareness through collaboration with Local Self Government Institutions like Panchayats, Nagar Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies, which are the closest instruments of governance to the people. These institutions serve as the pillars of decentralized democracy, and JAGRITI uses their existing infrastructure to reach communities with legal information, support and education.

Significantly, JAGRITI serves as a concrete and grassroots-level implementation of Article 39A of the Constitution of India, which directs the State to ensure that justice is not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities. By taking legal awareness to the doorsteps of the underserved, especially in rural and remote areas, the Scheme ensures that the constitutional guarantee of free legal aid becomes a lived reality. It reinforces the vision enshrined in the Preamble to the Constitution: Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity, and converts these noble ideals into lived realities for the common person.

The Scheme seeks to empower every citizen, particularly those in rural, remote and underserved regions, with the knowledge and confidence to assert their rights. By engaging Para Legal Volunteers, Panel Lawyers and community workers as the driving force of this awareness campaign, the Scheme ensures that legal knowledge does not remain confined to courtrooms or books, but is accessible, actionable and relatable.

Contd...P/2

Address for Communication: National Legal Services Authority, Ground Floor, Double Storey, Jaisalmer House
26, Mansingh Road, New Delhi-110011 • Website: www.nalsa.gov.in, E-mail: nalsa-dla@nic.in
Ph: 23382778, 23071450, Fax: 23382121

Monthly legal camps, street plays, public screenings, mobile vans and awareness materials in local languages, these are not just tools, but pathways to democratic empowerment. Through them, the Scheme aims to bridge the gap between the citizen and the legal system, ensuring that no one is denied justice due to ignorance or isolation.

I commend the efforts of NALSA team in giving shape to this transformative and timely initiative. Let JAGRITI be the light that guides every individual to justice: accessible, inclusive and dignified.



(B R Gavai)

सत्यमेव जयते

राष्ट्रीय विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण
NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
(Constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987)

एस. सी. मुनघाटे
S. C. MUNGHATE
(Principal District Judge)
सदस्य सचिव
MEMBER SECRETARY
(In-charge)

B-Block, Ground Floor,
Administrative Buildings Complex,
Supreme Court of India, New Delhi-110001

Ground Floor, Double Storey,
Jaisalmer House, 26, Mansingh Road,
New Delhi-110011

MESSAGE

"If the law is not known to the people, it will remain a mystery, and injustice will rule"
– Edmund Burke

It is with great pride that we unveil the NALSA (JAGRITI-Justice Awareness for Grassroots Information and Transparency Initiative) Scheme, 2025, a milestone initiative rooted in NALSA's unwavering commitment to "Access to Justice for All."

Bridging the knowledge gap between the people and the justice system is essential to realizing the full potential of legal aid services. The JAGRITI Scheme is a strategic and timely response to this need, aiming to institutionalize legal awareness and aid dissemination through deep integration with Local Self-Government Institutions across the country.

At its core, the Scheme envisions the creation of an informed citizenry, one that is legally empowered to assert rights and seek timely redressal. It does so by establishing District and Taluk JAGRITI Units, tasked with conducting outreach and awareness activities through innovative, culturally resonant methods like *Nukkad Nataks*, community screenings, mobile legal aid vans, and public engagement in local languages. These Units will also ensure the optimal use of public buildings, including Panchayat Bhawans, schools and health centres, for regular dissemination of legal information.

The Scheme further seeks to maximize the reach of legal aid services by leveraging the presence of Para Legal Volunteers, Panel Lawyers, Common Service Centres, and local institutions such as Self Help Groups and Anganwadi centres. Monthly legal awareness sessions under the banner "*Ghar Ghar Mein Nyay ki JAGRITI*" aim to bring knowledge to every doorstep. Through legal clinics, digital campaigns, loudspeaker announcements and street-level engagement, the Scheme will enable people to better understand their rights and the remedies available under law.

More than a Scheme, JAGRITI is a movement, one that aspires to deepen the roots of justice in every corner of our nation. It is a meaningful step towards the fulfilment of Article 39A of the Constitution, which directs the State to ensure that justice is not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities.

I commend the entire NALSA team for their persistent efforts in conceptualizing and launching this Scheme. Let us collectively strive to ensure that no voice remains unheard and no right remains unenforced, because justice must not only be delivered, but also be understood, claimed and lived.

(S. C. Munghate)

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

S.No.	Abbreviation	Full Form
1.	DLSA	District Legal Services Authority
2.	LSA Act	Legal Services Authority Act, 1987
3.	LSGI	Local Self Government Institutions
4.	LSI	Legal Services Institutions
5.	NALSA	National Legal Services Authority
6.	NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
7.	ODR	Online Dispute Resolution
8.	PLV	Para legal volunteer
9.	PRI	Panchayati Raj Institutions
10.	SHG	Self Help Group
11.	SLSA	State Legal Services Authority
12.	TLSC	Taluk Legal Services Committee
13.	ULB	Urban Local Bodies

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PART I

FOUNDATIONAL FRAMEWORK

"True empowerment begins when knowledge reaches those at the grassroots, turning awareness into action."

1. INTRODUCTION:

The importance of legal information at the grassroots level cannot be overstated. Legal awareness empowers individuals to understand their rights and navigate surrounding local problems by availing legal processes effectively. When people, particularly the weaker and vulnerable sections, are equipped with basic legal knowledge, they are better positioned to seek assistance, face adverse situations and hold authorities accountable. This, in turn, fosters greater social inclusion, safeguards human rights and reduces systemic inequality.

The efforts to empower the vulnerable sections through legal awareness and justice delivery system often becomes cumbersome due to absence of awareness of legal rights amongst the beneficiaries. Such lack of awareness results in violation of fundamental rights, prolonged legal battles and mistrust. To promote a harmonious and well-informed citizenry, bridging the knowledge gap is essential. To ensure that justice is not a privilege but a right accessible to all, legal literacy initiatives at the grassroot level are crucial. They create a just and equitable society where individuals, irrespective of their socio-economic background, empower themselves by exercising legal rights and avail the benefits of the justice delivery system.

National Legal Services Authority (hereinafter referred as "NALSA") with the vision to promote justice for growth and reform at the grassroots level has formulated ***NALSA (JAGRITI - Justice Awareness for Grassroots Information and Transparency Initiative) Scheme, 2025.*** The Scheme aims to create a mechanism dedicated towards reaching grassroots level population, to spread legal awareness by utilizing local self-governance institutions. Through this Scheme, NALSA seeks to bridge the gap between legal framework and the grassroots population by fostering legal awareness and ensuring access to justice.

The concept of local self-governance has deep roots in India's history. Ancient India was home to several republics, known as "Mahajanapadas," which functioned as early forms of democratic governance. These republics, also referred to as "Ganas" or "Sanghas," exemplified community-led decision-making and localized governance. This historical legacy has now found its modern expression in the Indian Constitution.

The Indian Constitution has also mandated, that the State should ensure equal justice and provide free legal aid, particularly to those afflicted by economic or other disabilities. To realize this mandate, the Parliament enacted the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 (hereinafter referred as "LSA Act"), which established NALSA and other Legal Services Institutions (hereinafter referred as "LSIs") to provide free legal aid to those in need, as specified under Section 12 of the Act.

1.1 Challenges in Accessing Legal Aid

The key challenges faced in accessing legal aid include:

a. Lack of Awareness: The 143rd Report of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law

and Justice (February 2024)[1] emphasized the lack of awareness as a significant impediment to the effective delivery of legal aid. The report noted:

> *"A critical issue contributing to the justice gap is the lack of awareness among those who require legal aid. Insufficient legal education leaves people unaware of their rights and the available avenues for legal assistance. India Justice Report 2019 reveals that since 1995, only 15 million individuals have availed themselves of legal aid, despite over 80 percent of the population being eligible for such assistance."*

Such lack of awareness prevents large segment of the population, especially those in rural areas, from accessing legal services. The absence of grassroot level outreach programs & structured legal education exacerbates this problem.

b. **Geographical Barriers:** Legal aid providers are primarily concentrated in urban centres, making it difficult for individuals in remote and rural areas to physically commute to avail their services. As per the **India Justice Report, 2019**[2]**,** in 2017, a total of 14,161 legal services clinics existed across around 597,000 villages. Based on these figures, an average of one legal services clinic serves 42 villages. Long distances, inadequate transportation facilities and poor connectivity further discourage individuals from promptly seeking legal assistance.

c. **Shortage of Legal Professionals:** The availability of legal professionals is disproportionately low in grassroot areas. According to the Bar Council of India (2020), there is only one lawyer for every 10,000 people in rural India, compared to one lawyer for every 1,000 people in urban areas. This shortage of legal professionals affects quality of legal representation.

d. **Economic Constraints:** The **Law Commission of India's 128th Report (1988)**[3] acknowledged that high litigation expenses can deter individuals from seeking justice. The report emphasized that the cost of litigation is a significant barrier to accessing justice, potentially leading many to forgo legal remedies due to financial constraints. Although legal aid is free, there are hidden costs that discourage litigants from accessing justice. Thus, the indirect costs such as transportation and loss of daily wages dissuades many from seeking legal remedies.

e. **Digital Divide & Limited Use of Technology:** With the push for e-courts and online dispute resolution (ODR), digital legal aid is becoming a reality. However, grassroot India struggles with low internet penetration and digital illiteracy, which limits access to technology-driven legal services. In India there are around 692 million people who are internet users, which comprises of only 48.7% of the total Indian population.[4] This data underscores the digital divide.

1.2 Importance of Legal Awareness for Legal Aid

Legal awareness refers to the understanding of laws, legal rights and the procedures available

[1]Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice, One Hundred Forty-Third Report On The Subject "Review Of The Working Of Legal Aid Under The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987", 13 (2024)

[2]India Justice Report (2019): Ranking States on Police, Judiciary, Prisons and Legal Aid 88

[3]Law Commission of India 128th Report on Cost of Litigation

[4]Digital 2023: India, DataReportal, Retrieved from https://datareportal.com/reports/digital-2023-india

to enforce these rights. It empowers individuals to make informed decisions, assert their rights and seek legal remedies when required. In a democratic society like India, legal awareness is fundamental for promoting social justice and ensuring equality before the law. It is not only a tool for empowerment but also essential for the preservation of the rule of law.

Legal awareness is an essential pillar for the effective delivery of legal aid. Without a clear understanding of their rights and the availability of free legal services, many individuals cannot access the justice system. This awareness enables people to recognize legal violations, approach appropriate authorities and seek redress. Legal aid mechanisms, no matter how robust, cannot be effective if the intended beneficiaries are unaware of their existence or how to access them. Thus, legal awareness bridges the gap between legal rights and their realization, ensuring that justice reaches those who need it the most.

Legal aid is the method adopted to ensure that no one is deprived of professional advice and help due to lack of funds. The main objective is to make justice available to the vulnerable, downtrodden and weaker sections of society. In this regard, **Justice P.N. Bhagwati** aptly observed[5]:

> *"The legal aid means providing an arrangement in the society so that the machinery of administration of justice becomes easily accessible and is not out of reach of those who have to resort to it for enforcement of its given to them by law. The poor and illiterate should be able to approach the courts, and their ignorance and poverty should not be an impediment in the way of their obtaining justice from the courts. Legal aid should be available to the poor and illiterate, who don't have access to courts. One need not be a litigant to seek aid by means of legal aid."*

However, it needs to be highlighted that, despite the establishment of legal aid mechanisms, significant gaps remain in reaching those who need it the most. According to the information given by the Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the **Ministry of Law & Justice, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal in a written reply in Lok Sabha and published by Press Information Bureau,** the beneficiaries of legal aid and advice from 2022-23 to 2024-25 (Upto September, 2024) are as under:

Beneficiaries of Legal Aid and Advice

Years	Persons provided Panel Advocates	Persons benefited through Advice/ Counselling	Persons benefited through other services	Total
2022-23	2,91,410	6,39,230	2,84,129	12,14,769
2023-24	3,24,914	9,47,087	2,78,163	15,50,164
2024-25 (Upto Sept,24)	1,68,380	5,05,386	86,012	7,59,778

[5] Speaking through the Legal Aid Committee formed in 1971 by the State of Gujarat on Legal Aid with its Chairman, Mr. P.N. Bhagwati along with its members, Mr. J.M. Thakore, A.G., Mr. VV Mehta, Deputy Speaker, Gujarat Vidhan Sabha, Mr. Madhavsinh F. Solanki, M.L.A, Mr. Girishbhai C. Patel, Principal, New Lal College, Ahemdabad. His Lordship answered to the question of inequality in the administration of justice between the rich and the poor.

Thus, the total number of beneficiaries of legal aid and advice amounts to 3,524,711. In contrast, the population of India as per the 2011 Census is 1,210,854,977. This indicates that only about 0.29% of the population has accessed legal aid services. Such figures highlight the limited reach of legal assistance and the urgent need to bridge this gap. Given this substantial gap, it becomes evident that enhancing legal awareness is essential to expanding the reach of legal aid. Without targeted and consistent awareness campaigns, the legal aid system risks excluding the very people it aims to serve.

Recognizing the significance of awareness in ensuring the success of legal aid initiatives, the Hon'ble Supreme Court, in ***Suhas Chakma v. Union of India & Ors*** **(2024 INSC 813),** emphasized:

> *"For the success of the functioning of the legal aid mechanism, awareness is the key. A robust mechanism should be put in place and periodically updated to ensure that the various beneficial schemes promoted by the Legal Services Authorities reach the nook and corner of the nation and particularly, to those whose grievances it has set out to address. Adequate literature, including in the local languages in the States, and appropriate promotional methods should be launched so that the consumers of justice to whom the schemes are intended can make the best use of the same."*

This landmark judgment also underscores the necessity of a structured and sustainable approach to legal awareness & its dissemination, amongst those communities which are most vulnerable and underserved.

2. EXISTING LEGAL PROVISIONS AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

2.1 The principle of equal access to justice is a fundamental tenet of the Indian Constitution, reflecting the State's commitment to ensure that justice is not denied to any citizen due to economic or social constraints. The Preamble of the Indian Constitution reflects the vision of the framers of the Constitution towards justice for all. It represents the philosophy of a welfare state aiming to achieve justice-social, economic and political This commitment is rooted in the harmonious relationship between Fundamental Rights (Part III) and Directive Principles of State Policy (Part IVA) of our Indian Constitution. While Fundamental Rights guarantee and protect individuals with basic human rights, Directive Principles act as a guide for the State to establish socio-economic conditions where rights of individuals can be meaningfully exercised.

2.2 **Article 14** of the Constitution guarantees equality before the law and equal protection of the laws. This provision ensures that every individual, regardless of socio-economic background, has an equal right to seek legal remedies. It forms the bedrock of the legal framework that mandates non-discrimination and equal access to legal processes for all citizens.

2.3 **Article 21,** which protects the right to life and personal liberty, has been expansively interpreted by the Supreme Court to include the right to legal representation. In ***Hussainara Khatoon v. State of Bihar*** (1979 AIR SC 1369), the Court emphasized that the right to free legal aid is implicit under Article 21, especially for indigent accused who cannot afford legal representation. The judicial interpretation has extended the scope of this Article to include the right to free legal aid for marginalized groups, thereby reinforcing the constitutional commitment which is substantive justice for all.

2.4 **Article 39A,** introduced through the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976, casts an obligation on the State to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not lost due to financial constraints, thereby making legal aid an essential component of the country's governance framework. This provision aims to eliminate socio-economic barriers that prevent access to justice. It embodies the philosophy of the Directive Principles, recognizing that legal aid is essential for achieving substantive equality.

2.5 The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts, 1992, introduced **Part IX (The Panchayats) and Part IXA (The Municipalities),** respectively, institutionalizing local self-governance through Panchayati Raj Institutions (hereinafter referred as "PRIs") and Urban Local Bodies (hereinafter referred as "ULBs"). In line with this, **Article 243G** empowers PRIs to implement schemes related to social justice, while **Article 243W** grants similar powers to ULBs. These provisions gave effect to decentralized governance and empowered local bodies to carry out legal awareness initiatives at the grassroots level, ensuring that access to justice extends beyond urban centers to rural and peri-urban areas.

2.6 To incorporate these constitutional guarantees into an actionable framework, the **Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987** was enacted, establishing a structured mechanism for delivering legal aid at multiple levels. This Act institutionalized NALSA, State Legal Services Authority (hereinafter referred as "SLSA"), District legal Services Authority (hereinafter referred as "DLSA"), Taluk Legal Services Committee (hereinafter referred as "TLSC"), Supreme Court legal Services Committee and High Court legal Services committee, ensuring the systematic implementation of legal awareness programs across the country.

2.7 Through the **NALSA (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulations, 2010,** NALSA aims to ensure the delivery of competent legal services by establishing a structured system for providing free legal aid. These regulations outline the appointment of panel and retainer lawyers, the functioning of front offices and the formation of Monitoring and Mentoring Committees to supervise and enhance the quality of legal assistance.

2.8 Building upon this, the **NALSA Legal Aid Defence Counsel System (LADCS)** was introduced to provide dedicated and competent legal representation in criminal cases, particularly benefiting underprivileged and marginalised communities. This system institutionalises a system where full-time legal aid counsels at the district level ensure that those in need receive consistent and quality legal assistance throughout their legal journey.

2.9 At the grassroots level, in rural areas, the **NALSA (Legal Services Clinics) Regulations, 2011,** mandates the establishment of Legal Aid Clinics in villages, bringing legal assistance closer to those who need it the most.

2.10 NALSA, while addressing Pan-India concerns, has consistently formulated schemes to tackle ground-level realities. Under the *NALSA Para Legal Volunteers (PLV) Scheme,* Para Legal Volunteers (hereinafter referred as "PLVs") are trained and deployed to conduct door-to-door legal awareness campaigns, assist individuals in accessing legal services and serve as the first point of contact for legal aid. In addition to the PLV Scheme, NALSA has developed several other key initiatives focusing on grassroots issues. These include *NALSA (Legal Services to Disaster Victims Through Legal*

Services Authorities) Scheme, 2010, NALSA (Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation) Scheme, 2015, NALSA (Legal Services to Workers in the Unorganized Sector) Scheme, 2015, NALSA (Effective Implementation of Poverty Alleviation Schemes) Scheme, 2015, NALSA (Protection and Enforcement of Tribal Rights) Scheme, 2015, NALSA (Legal Services for Differently Abled Children) Scheme, 2015, etc. These schemes reflect NALSA's commitment to ensuring legal aid reaches the most vulnerable sections of society.

2.11 To maximize its outreach and ensure accessible legal aid, **NALSA operates a National Helpline-Toll-Free No. 15100,** maintains a user-friendly website and conducts nationwide campaigns to promote legal awareness. Notable campaigns include the Six-Week Legal Awareness and Outreach Program as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Special Campaign for Old and Terminally-Ill Prisoners and the Special Pan-India campaign of Under Trial Prisoners Review Committee. Additionally, NALSA regularly formulates Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to standardize legal aid delivery, ensure uniform implementation across jurisdictions, enhance efficiency and maintain compliance with legal frameworks while improving access to justice for marginalized communities.

2.12 While the LSA Act along with NALSA regulations, digital infrastructure, human resource, grassroot level framework, campaigns, SOPs and schemes provide a mechanism for accessing legal aid, government policies have also played a crucial role in expanding the scope of legal awareness and justice delivery.

2.13 Recognizing the need for modern interventions, the Department of Justice (DoJ) launched the **DISHA (Designing Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice) Scheme** in 2021, to integrate technology, community engagement and institutional support for legal assistance in rural areas. A key component, the Tele-Law Initiative, offers pre-litigation legal advice through video conferencing and telephone services via Common Service Centres (hereinafter referred as "CSCs"). The scheme also promotes Pro Bono Legal Services, mobilizing legal professionals to assist vulnerable groups. Additionally, it focuses on legal literacy through interactive initiatives like street plays, legal awareness films, mobile legal aid vans and IEC campaigns, engaging Panchayats, SHGs, ASHA and Anganwadi workers to reach marginalized communities.

2.14 Thus, the constitutional framework, legislative provisions and policy interventions together create a comprehensive and multi-dimensional approach to legal awareness and access to justice.

3. ESTABLISHING A SCHEME TO INSTITUTIONALIZE LEGAL AID AWARENESS THROUGH LOCAL BODIES

Recognizing the challenges of legal awareness and the need for a structured, systematic approach, NALSA is introducing the **NALSA (JAGRITI- Justice Awareness for Grassroots Information and Transparency Initiative) Scheme, 2025.** This initiative aims to institutionalize legal aid outreach within the existing **Local Self-Government Institutions** (hereinafter referred as "LSGI") framework. By collaborating with LSGI and using community institutions such as Panchayat Bhawans, Nagar panchayats, local schools and dispensaries, the Scheme ensures that NALSA's legal aid initiatives effectively reach every eligible beneficiary at the grassroots level.

3.1. Objectives of the Scheme:

a. **Institutionalizing Legal Awareness:** The aim of the Scheme is to integrate the LSGI framework with LSIs and to disseminate information regarding legal aid.

b. **Utilizing Public Places and Buildings:** Using existing community LSGI such as Panchayat Bhawans, Nagar Panchayats, school and dispensaries, etc., to disseminate legal information, create awareness and provide assistance to masses.

c. **Legal Empowerment and Access to Justice:** Ensure effective access to justice and timely legal aid services to be provided to the beneficiaries under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

d. **Maximising the Outreach of Legal Aid Services:** By reaching out to the marginalized sections of society, the present Scheme aims to create awareness on legal rights and remedies for the infringement thereof.

e. **Creating Database of Legal Aid Services:** By collating comprehensively the materials in print and digital format which is to be disseminated throughout the country, NALSA, under the present Scheme, aims to create an institutional memory of the services delivered to the weaker and marginalised sections of the society.

f. **Informed Citizenry:** The Scheme informs the citizens about their rights, remedies and its enforcement thereof to bridge the gap between the citizens and the legal landscape. By extending the legal services to the beneficiaries under the LSA Act, this Scheme aims to build an informed citizenry. This is in alignment with the fundamental duty enshrined under Article 51A, i.e., to strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity so that the nation constantly rises to higher levels of endeavour and achievement.

g. **Encouraging Community Participation:** Actively involve community leaders, self-help groups (hereinafter referred as "SHGs") and ASHA workers to ensure effective dissemination and outreach.

4. DEFINITIONS

4.1. **"District Legal Services Authority"** shall mean an Authority as defined in Section 2 (b) of the LSA Act and constituted under Section 9 of the LSA Act;

4.2. **"Gram Sabha"** shall mean a body consisting of persons registered in the electoral rolls relating to a village comprised within the area of Panchayat at village level as defined under Article 243(b) of Indian Constitution;

4.3. **"Legal Aid Defense Counsel Scheme"** shall mean the Legal Aid Defense Counsel Scheme 2022 as formulated by National Legal Services Authority;

4.4. **"Legal Services"** includes the rendering of any free service in the conduct of any case or other legal proceeding before any Court or other authority or tribunal (including in appellate proceedings) and the giving of advice on any legal matter;

4.5. **"Legal Services Clinics"** shall mean and include the facility established by the District Legal Services Authority to provide basic legal services to the villagers with the assistance of para legal volunteers or panel lawyers, as the point of first contact for help and advice & includes Legal Services Clinics set up under Regulation 3 of the NALSA (Legal Services Clinics) Regulations, 2011;

4.6. **"Legal Services Institutions"** shall include Taluka Legal Services Committees (TLSC), District Legal Services Authorities (DLSA), State Legal Services Authorities (SLSA), High Court Legal Services Committees (HCLSC) and the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC), as the case may be;

4.7. **"Municipality"** shall mean an institution of self-government constituted under Article 243Q of Indian Constitution;

4.8. **"Municipal Council"** shall mean a municipality constituted under Article 243Q(b) for a smaller urban area;

4.9. **"Municipal Corporation"** shall mean a municipality constituted under Article 243Q(c) for a larger urban area;

4.10. **"Nagar Panchayat"** shall mean a municipality constituted under Article 243Q(a) for a transitional area, that is to say, an area in transition from a rural area to an urban area;

4.11. **"National Legal Services Authority"** shall mean Central Authority constituted under Section 3 of the LSA Act;

4.12. **"Panchayat"** shall mean an institution (by whatever name called) of self-Government constituted under Article 243B of the Indian Constitution for the rural area;

4.13. **"Panel Lawyer"** shall mean a lawyer selected under Regulation 8 of the NALSA (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulations, 2010;

4.14. **"Para Legal Volunteer"** shall mean a Para Legal Volunteer defined and trained under the revised NALSA Scheme for Para Legal Volunteers and the Module of Orientation, Induction and Refresher Course for Para Legal Volunteers training and engaged as such by the LSI;

4.15. **"State Legal Services Authority"** shall mean a State Legal Services Authority constituted under Section 6 of the LSA Act;

4.16. **"Taluka Legal Services Committee"** means a Taluka Legal Services Committee constituted under Section 11A of the LSA Act and also means the Sub Divisional Legal Services Committee, where so named.

All words and expressions used but not defined in this Scheme and defined in other Acts, Rules and Regulations shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in those Acts, Rules and Regulations, as the case may be.

PART II

OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

The framework for information dissemination has been drafted in accordance with the principles outlined by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Suhas Chakma case, Para 34(vii-a, b & c), (Supra)* which emphasized the need for widespread legal awareness through visible public displays, media campaigns and community outreach.

Summarily the directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, in Para 34(vii), stressed upon the need for creating awareness about legal aid through:

a. prominent displays in public spaces such as police stations, post offices and transport hubs;

b. media campaigns on platforms like All India Radio and Doordarshan; and

c. grassroot outreach initiatives such as Nukkad Nataks (street plays) in rural areas.

To carry out this vision, the Scheme endeavours to use these measures and establish **Special Units** to conduct, coordinate and monitor all outreach activities under this Scheme.

5. ESTABLISHMENT OF DISTRICT AND TALUK SPECIAL UNITS:

5.1. To ensure the effective and structured implementation of Scheme, two Special Units shall be established:

a. District JAGRITI Unit at the district level.

b. Taluk JAGRITI Unit at the taluk level.

5.2. Composition of District JAGRITI Unit:

i. The State Legal Services Authority (SLSA) shall direct the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) to establish a Special Unit to be called District JAGRITI Unit.

ii. The Chairman, DLSA shall officially constitute District JAGRITI Unit and inform the SLSA.

iii. The Chairman, DLSA, shall, within one month of the implementation of this Scheme, constitute the District JAGRITI Unit comprising of the following members:

a. Principal District & Sessions Judge/Chairman, DLSA, - Chairperson JAGRITI Unit

b. Secretary, DLSA - Nodal Officer

c. Any one Chairman, TLSC to be nominated by Chairman, DLSA – Member

d. Two panel lawyers to be nominated by the Chairman, DLSA - Members

e. Four para legal volunteers (out of which at least one PLV shall preferably be female) to be nominated by the Chairman, DLSA - Members.

f. Faculty member of law college/university if any who is carrying out legal aid work in his/her institution to be nominated by the head of the Law College/University

g. The District JAGRITI unit may consist of following members to be nominated by Principal District & Sessions Judge/Chairman, DLSA, including:

i. District Magistrate or any other officer nominated by him/her not below the rank of Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM),

ii. The Head of the Police Department of the that District/City or any other officer nominated by him/her not below the rank of Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) or Sub Divisional Police Officer (SDPO)

iii. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Zila Parishad or any other gazetted officer nominated by him/her,

iv. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Municipal Corporation/Chief Officer (CO) of the Municipality and Nagar Panchayats or any other gazetted officer nominated by him/her,

v. District Social Welfare Officer (DSWO)

5.3. The District JAGRITI Unit shall be headed by the Secretary, DLSA, under the overall supervision of the Chairman, DLSA.

5.4. Composition of Taluk JAGRITI Unit:

i. The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) shall direct the Taluk Legal Services Committee (TLSC) to establish the Taluk JAGRITI Unit.

ii. The Chairman of TLSC (Senior-most Judicial Officer in the Taluk) shall officially constitute Taluk JAGRITI Unit.

iii. The Taluk JAGRITI Unit shall comprise of following members:

a. Chairman, TLSC

b. Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM)/Deputy Collector/Tehsildar or a gazetted Officer to be nominated by the senior most officer, head in-charge of the respective Taluka revenue Office.

c. Station House Officer of the concerned taluka or any other officer on his behalf but not below the rank of Sub Inspector shall be nominated by the Chairman, TLSC.

d. Block Development Officer (BDO) or a gazetted Officer shall be nominated by Chairman, TLSC.

e. Two Panel Lawyer from TLSC.

f. A dedicated team of four PLVs in the Taluk, out of which at least one PLV shall preferably be female.

g. A representative from local railway station administration.

h. A representative from local Post Office.

i. A representative from local Bus Stand Management.

j. A representative from a Nationalised Bank having its branch in the Taluk.

5.5. If, due to exceptional circumstances, the Chairman, DLSA/TLSC is unable to constitute the respective JAGRITI units with the prescribed members in accordance with the specified criteria, the Chairman may, with prior intimation to the Member Secretary, SLSA, appoint an alternative member deemed suitable.

5.6. District JAGRITI Unit shall be responsible for planning & coordination as well as ensuring the implementation of Legal Awareness initiatives at grassroots level.

5.7. Taluk JAGRITI Unit shall be responsible for implementation of the District Level Directives as well as community engagement & local mobilization.

5.8. Training and Capacity Building:

5.8.1 The SLSA of the State shall conduct an Orientation Meeting (Physical/Virtual) for the District JAGRITI Unit & Taluk JAGRITI Unit within two weeks of its constitution. Orientation of additional legal services providers shall be done routinely by the Units.

5.8.2 The SLSA of the State shall conduct refresher training Session for their respective Units bi-annually. These may be organised in coordination with the relevant government departments/organisations.

6. IDENTIFICATION OF PUBLIC BUILDING/PLACES FOR INFORMATION DISSEMINATION:

6.1. District JAGRITI Unit shall be responsible for issuing directives and guidelines for identifying public buildings/places.

6.2. District/Taluk JAGRITI Unit in coordination with grassroots level authorities working in the Panchayat Raj Institutions, shall conduct field assessments to verify identified locations.

6.3. Regular coordination meeting between District and Taluk JAGRITI Units shall ensure that identification of the public building/places is effective.

6.4. Criteria for selecting Public Buildings/Places shall be accessibility, visibility and frequency of public gatherings.

6.5. The District/Taluk JAGRITI Units shall review the list bi-annually, updating it based on local feedback and infrastructure changes. Temporary sites like markets and festival grounds may also be identified for outreach.

7. MODES OF DISSEMINATION OF LEGAL AWARENESS:

7.1. Ghar Ghar Mein Nyay ki JAGRITI: Monthly Legal Awareness Session/Camp:

a. Legal awareness sessions/camps under the name "Ghar Ghar Mein Nyay ki JAGRITI" shall be conducted on monthly basis by the District/Taluk JAGRITI Unit (translated into local language to ensure better understanding and acceptance).

b. District/Taluk JAGRITI Unit shall conduct the awareness sessions in identified areas to deliver knowledge on NALSA Schemes, legal aid, relevant statutes, etc.

c. Legal Awareness Sessions/Camps shall be hosted at conspicuous places such as Panchayat Bhawans, CSCs, Nagar panchayats, schools or dispensaries and other identified public places.

d. PLVs shall assist in organising and conducting the sessions. Their role shall include mobilizing villagers, making announcements and engaging the community. They can do so via door-to-door outreach and local panchayat coordination. They can also publicize the awareness sessions via posters and WhatsApp groups created by local administration.

e. In districts with Law Colleges or Universities with Law Faculty, District/Taluk JAGRITI Unit can engage students and faculties to spread awareness.

f. As part of these legal aid efforts, special sessions may be organized for senior citizens and other local inhabitants to assist them in obtaining essential identification and welfare scheme documents. This will enable them to access government benefits and exercise their legal rights effectively.

g. The District JAGRITI Unit shall be responsible for creating awareness materials to be used during the sessions. Awareness materials may include:

   i. Short Films: to illustrate legal concepts effectively.

   ii. Handbook & pamphlets: Covering Legal rights, procedures, NALSA & government schemes.

   iii. Nukkad Nataks or similar local level activities that are relevant to the local social and cultural practices

7.2. Legal Awareness through Public Screening:

a. Taluk JAGRITI Unit in coordination with District JAGRITI Unit shall translate the material available on NALSA YouTube Channel such as **NALSA Documentary, Akele Nahi hai Aap Series of Doordarshan and NALSA story** into the regional language. The Units shall also identify regionally relevant movies on legal issues to be screened for locals.

b. These videos shall be shown in community spaces like schools, village chaupals, panchayat halls, Nagar panchayats and other identified areas having high foot fall.

c. This may be followed by a post-screening discussion by the Unit members.

7.3. Legal Awareness through Street Plays and Puppetry shows:

a. During legal awareness camps, PLVs can perform and involve children of local schools in the performance of Nukkad Nataks on various legal issues and topics.

b. District/Taluk JAGRITI Unit can collaborate with local puppetry artists to present shows on current legal issues.

c. Units shall ensure that regional proverbs, songs and traditional storytelling styles are used in street plays and puppetry shows for better understanding of the public.

7.4. Legal Awareness through Mobile Legal Aid Vans:

a. District/Taluk JAGRITI Unit may deploy a mobile legal aid van to serve multiple villages/places.

b. The van may carry legal aid materials, including pamphlets, audio-visual aids and informational content to spread awareness about NALSA schemes, Legal Awareness Sessions and Camps.

c. Each van shall have a Panel Lawyer, a PLV and a local ASHA or Anganwadi worker to build trust with the village community to ensure effective outreach.

7.5. Legal Awareness through Poster and Banners:

a. District/Taluk JAGRITI Unit shall display legal aid information on posters/ banners in public areas of identified places/buildings.

b. They shall be placed at locations such as hospitals, railway stations, local Bus Stations/Stops, Panchayat Bhawan, schools, police stations etc, with large footfall.

c. Local transportation may be used for the advertisement of NALSA schemes and legal aid information.

d. Poster/Banner shall contain the helpline numbers of NALSA-15100/SLSA/ DLSA/ TLSC.

7.6. Legal Awareness through loudspeaker announcements:

a. Loudspeaker announcement of the jingles prepared by NALSA and any other befitting announcements such as "Ghar Ghar Ki Awaaz Kanooni Jaankari Har Gali, Har Chauraha" (translate it into regional/ local languages) to be made.

b. Taluk JAGRITI Unit under the supervision and guidance of District JAGRITI Unit shall make arrangement with the local railway stations to play Pre-recorded announcements about the free legal aid, NALSA Schemes, etc.

c. Mobile legal aid vans with loudspeakers may be used to make announcement on key legal messages in busy markets and rural festivities.

7.7. Legal Awareness through Local Newspapers:

a. Taluk JAGRITI Unit under the supervision of District JAGRITI Unit to identify widely circulated local and regional newspapers & partner with them to cater to

local audience.

b. Units may work with Panchayat/Nagar Palika members and engage local journalists to cover stories on legal aid initiatives.

c. Taluk JAGRITI Unit shall coordinate with District JAGRITI Unit to create a monthly "Know Your Rights" Column, in the regional language.

d. Taluk JAGRITI Unit can use simple cartoon illustrations to explain legal rights in a relatable manner.

e. Taluk JAGRITI Unit shall also publish short, visually engaging ads containing:

i. Toll free helpline numbers of NALSA-15100/SLSA/DLSA/TLSC,

ii. Information on awareness sessions, legal aid camps and clinics.

7.8. Legal Awareness through Audio-Visual means:

a. **All India Radio & FM Radio:** District JAGRITI Unit shall prepare jingles & Short legal messages with the help of PLVs/Law Students/Panel Lawyers explaining legal rights & NALSA Schemes and to partner with AIR & Prasar Bharti for free airtime under public service broadcasting. The Unit may also collaborate with private FM Stations.

b. **Doordarshan:** District JAGRITI Unit shall prepare short informative videos and partner with Doordarshan regional offices to telecast these videos.

c. The District & Taluka JAGRITI Units may employ any other audio-visual tools or mediums which they may deem fit for broader public awareness.

7.9. Legal Awareness through Harnessing the Potential of Digital Tools and Platforms:

a. District JAGRITI Unit may post success stories of legal aid provided in identified areas on the YouTube channel of their respective SLSA. They shall advertise about the channel during legal awareness sessions/camps.

b. District and Taluk JAGRITI Units to post short reels/videos and success stories on their Instagram/Facebook.

c. SMS and WhatsApp-based legal awareness messages may be disseminated in collaboration with local authorities. NALSA related-information may be integrated into Panchayat/Municipalities websites and mobile applications, where available.

d. Any other Social Media Platforms may be used to tag the government authorities along with the videos and posts, for greater outreach.

e. **Common Service Centres:** Taluk JAGRITI Unit shall collaborate with CSCs to display information about free legal aid services at CSC along with the helpline number of local TLSC/DLSA/SLSA. Panel lawyers from Taluk JAGRITI Unit shall periodically visit CSCs to provide in-person legal consultations and resolve simple legal queries. Legal awareness videos may be played on screens in CSC

while people wait for services. Virtual legal awareness sessions may be conducted via CSC, connecting villagers with legal experts. It may be used as registration hub for legal aid beneficiaries, where villagers may register for free legal aid services and Taluk JAGRITI Unit may forward their details from there to DLSA/ TLSC (as the case may be).

7.10. Legal Awareness through a Permanent Legal Aid Clinic:

a. District JAGRITI Unit shall assess whether a Village Legal Service Clinic, also known as the Village Legal Care and Support Centre, has been established in all villages or for a cluster of villages in accordance with the NALSA (Legal Service Clinics) Regulation, 2011.

b. If the clinics have not yet been established, District JAGRITI Unit shall immediately constitute the Unit within one month of the implementation of this Scheme.

c. District JAGRITI Unit may establish the clinic at the Panchayat Bhawan or Common Service Centre (CSC). However, if infrastructure and local conditions allow, other suitable public spaces may also be utilized for this purpose.

7.11. Legal Awareness Through Gram Sabha Meetings:

a. The Taluk Unit shall coordinate with the Panchayats of their respective Taluks to ascertain the schedule of Gram Sabha meetings.

b. Legal awareness sessions on key legal topics shall be conducted during these meetings by the Unit members including Panel Lawyers/PLVs.

7.12. Legal Awareness Through Painting the Public Buildings & Places:

a. The Public Buildings which have been identified shall be painted with the NALSA Logo, helpline number-15100. Efforts should be made to incorporate regional language and visually engaging elements like pictograms, slogans, etc.

b. The Taluk Unit, in coordination with the Panchayat and local artists, shall oversee the execution of this initiative, ensuring that the messages remain relevant and well-maintained. Periodic updates shall be made to keep the information accurate and aligned with evolving legal aid initiatives.

7.13. Legal Awareness Through Educational Institutions/Schools:

a. The District & Taluk JAGRITI Units shall collaborate with educational institutions and schools within their jurisdiction to raise legal awareness among students.

b. The Units may disseminate general information regarding NALSA organization, legal aid schemes, legal rights, locally relevant laws and other topics they consider appropriate.

8. RESPONSIBILITIES OF LEGAL SERVICE PROVIDERS AND INSTITUTIONS:

8.1. Legal Services Providers deputed to the Units:

8.1.1 Para legal Volunteers:

a. They shall perform all the tasks and activities related to legal awareness as outlined in Point 7 of this Scheme and conduct duties as outlined in Point 16 of the NALSA (Legal Services Clinics) Regulations, 2011, under the guidance and supervision of their respective Secretary, DLSA & Chairman, TLSC.

b. Make regular visits to the concerned Permanent Legal Aid Clinics.

c. Conduct door-to-door outreach sessions to inform villagers about various avenues of legal aid services.

d. Collaborate with local NGOs, ASHA workers, Self-Help Groups and community organizations to enhance the reach and impact of legal aid schemes.

e. Participate in local events such as fairs, festivals and health camps to promote legal aid schemes and services.

f. Encourage community participation for the legal awareness sessions and camps by mobilizing local leaders, teacher and influencers.

g. Assist marginalized groups in obtaining essential identification documents.

8.1.2 Panel Lawyers:

a. They shall provide legal services to the villagers as outlined in Point 7 of this Scheme and conduct duties as outlined in Point 9 and Point 16 of the NALSA (Legal Services Clinics) Regulations, 2011.

b. Conduct interactive discussions and Q&A sessions to ensure practical legal awareness. They may also invite experts in local area to speak on relevant issues.

c. Make special efforts to understand the needs and requirements of individuals with special needs during interactions.

d. Assist locals in applying for legal aid, filing grievances and accessing welfare schemes.

8.2. District JAGRITI Unit:

8.2.1. Overall Supervision & Implementation:

a. Ensure the implementation of the Scheme at the grassroots level.

b. Issue directives and guidelines to Taluk JAGRITI Unit for structured outreach.

c. Conduct bi-annual reviews of outreach progress and impact.

d. Maintain accurate data as per the format prescribed.

8.2.2. Setting Up & Monitoring Legal Aid Clinics:

a. Identify whether Village Legal Care & Support Centres have been established in all villages as per the NALSA (Legal Services Clinics) Regulation, 2011.

b. Take necessary steps to constitute Legal Aid Clinics immediately where not constituted. (maximum time period being: within one month of scheme implementation)

c. Monitor the functioning of legal clinics and ensure regular service delivery.

8.2.3. Collaboration & Partnership:

a. To coordinate with various urban local bodies and government departments to utilize their infrastructure and services responsibly.

b. Collaborate with Law Schools & Universities to involve students in rural legal awareness programs during internship period.

8.2.4. Periodic Evaluation & Reporting:

a. Ensure that legal awareness sessions/camps are conducted every month.

b. Maintain data of outreach activities and send reports to SLSA as per the given format.

c. Ensure community feedback mechanisms to improve legal aid services.

8.3. Taluk JAGRITI Unit:

8.3.1. Execution of Legal Awareness & Outreach Activities:

a. Implement District JAGRITI Unit directives at the taluk level.

b. Conduct door-to-door legal awareness campaigns with the help of PLVs.

c. Ensure widespread dissemination of legal aid information through social media platforms, loudspeaker announcements and community meetings.

8.3.2. Identifying & Addressing Legal Needs of the Community:

a. Identify village-specific issues and welfare schemes & organise special camps.

b. Maintain a database of pending legal issues in rural areas and coordinate with District JAGRITI Unit for follow-ups.

c. Maintain a database of the beneficiaries of the Legal Awareness sessions/ Camps. Taluk JAGRITI Unit can record the Aadhar details (or other details) and name of the beneficiary.

8.3.3. Coordination with Local Authorities:

a. Engage with Panchayats, SHGs, ASHA workers and Anganwadi workers for legal awareness dissemination.

b. JAGRITI Unit may train the SHGs, ASHA workers and Anganwadi workers to prepare them for the task of legal awareness dissemination

c. Collaborate with law schools and pro bono lawyers for additional legal aid support.

d. Report progress and challenges to District JAGRITI Unit regularly as per prescribed format.

8.4. State Legal Services Authority:

a. SLSA of the respective states shall oversee and support DLSAs in identifying key areas for disseminating legal information and ensuring the implementation of this Scheme.

b. SLSA shall prepare the training modules/curriculum for Orientation and Refresher Training of the JAGRITI Units.

c. SLSA may liaise with the nodal and allied departments of the Government including Education, Panchayati Raj, Rural Development, Social welfare and Law enforcement at the State Level, to facilitate the implementation of the objectives of this Scheme by the District and Taluk JAGRITI Units.

d. In addition to providing guidance, SLSAs shall facilitate capacity-building initiatives, offer resource materials and ensure effective implementation of outreach programs.

8.5. National Legal Services Authority:

a. NALSA shall be responsible for overall guidance, monitoring, assessment and evaluation of the implementation of Scheme.

b. Analyse reports from SLSAs to assess the Scheme's effectiveness.

c. Recommend policy changes based on trends and grassroot challenges.

d. Periodically provide print and digital materials for wider dissemination among the public through District and Taluk JAGRITI Units, respectively.

e. To comprehensively, collate the information pertaining to the best practices of the implementation of the Scheme, to create a collective database as well as preserve institutional memory.

8.6. District Legal Service Authority & Taluk Legal Services Committee:

DLSAs shall constitute the District JAGRITI Unit and oversee the working of TLSCs by ensuring that Taluk JAGRITI Units have been constituted. The DLSA and TLSC shall also ensure that there is effective coordination between them for legal aid and awareness programs. While the DLSA shall be responsible for overall planning, implementation, monitoring and monthly awareness in their respective wards, the TLSC

shall be actively engaged in grassroots-level execution and information gathering.

9. REPORTING AND MONITORING:

9.1. DLSA to report to SLSA regarding the constitution of the JAGRITI Units as per **Format A within one month of the implementation of this Scheme.**

9.2. Taluk JAGRITI Unit to provide monthly report to District JAGRITI Unit as per **Format B on monthly basis.**

9.3. DLSA (District JAGRITI Unit) to provide report to SLSA as per **Format C on quarterly basis.**

9.4. SLSA to provide report to NALSA as per **Format D on bi-annual basis.**

Reporting Schedule:

From	Report	Reporting Frequency
DLSA to SLSA	Format A	Within 1 month of the implementation of this Scheme.
Taluk Unit to District Unit	Format B	Monthly
DLSA to SLSA	Format C	Quarterly
SLSA to NALSA	Format D	Bi-annually

10. PROVISIONS FOR EXPENDITURE:

10.1. All expenditures to be incurred for implementing the Scheme shall be borne from the grants in aid funds, after the approval of the Hon'ble Executive Chairman of the concerned SLSA.

10.2. The JAGRITI Units may, with the approval of the Hon'ble Executive Chairman of the concerned SLSA, fix honorarium for the members of the unit.

10.3. JAGRITI Units to also provide for the travel and other miscellaneous expenses to the PLVs and other members as per the specified state government rates, as and when required.

10.4. JAGRITI Units shall incur the necessary expenses for making the Scheme functional and other miscellaneous expenses such as convening the meetings, from the grants in aid funds, under intimation to SLSA.

ANNEXURES

FORMAT A: REPORT ON CONSTITUTION OF DISTRICT AND TALUK UNITS

(To be submitted by DLSA to SLSA upon the constitution of District and Taluk Legal Awareness & Outreach Units.)

1. General Information
   - State: _____
   - District: _____
   - Date of Submission: _____
2. Constitution of District Legal Awareness & Outreach Unit (District Unit)
   - Date of Establishment: _____
   - Chairperson (DLSA): _____
   - Members of the District Unit:

Name	Designation	Department/Office	Contact Information
1.			
(Add rows as required)			

   - Roles and Responsibilities Assigned to the Unit:
     - o _____
     - o _____
3. Constitution of Taluk Legal Awareness & Outreach Unit (Taluk Unit)
   - Number of Taluks Covered: _____
   - Date of Establishment: _____
   - Chairperson (TLSC): _____
   - Members of Each Taluk Unit:

   (Separate tables for each Taluk Unit as needed)

Taluk Name: _____

Name	Designation	Department/Office	Contact Information
1.			
(Add rows as required)			

   - Roles and Responsibilities Assigned to the Unit:
     - o _____

4. Training & Orientation Conducted

- Date of Training for District Unit: _____
- Date of Training for Taluk Units: _____
- Resource Persons Involved: _____
- Key Topics Covered: _____

FORMAT B: REPORTING FORMAT FOR TALUK JAGRITI UNIT TO DISTRICT JAGRITI UNIT

1. General Information

- Taluk Name: _____
- District Name: _____
- Reporting Period: From //____ to //____

2. Summary of Legal Awareness & Outreach Activities

Village Name	Total Awareness Sessions Conducted	No. of Attendees of awareness session	Mobile Legal Aid Vans Deployed (Yes/No)	Subjects Covered	Resource Person (Name/ Contact no.)
(Add rows as required)					

3. Details of Awareness Activities Conducted

Mode of Dissemination used	Taluk Name	Village Name	Details
Awareness through Gram Sabha Meetings			1. No. of Gram Sabha Meeting where awareness done: 2. Topics
Public Screening			1. Whether Public Screenings done: [Yes/No] 2. Locations Covered: [List major locations] 3. Total Audience Reached: [Estimated number]
Street Plays & Puppetry Shows			1. Total Number of Nukkad Nataks Conducted: [Total] 2. Total Number of Puppetry Shows: [Total] 3. Total Audience Reached: [Estimated number]
Posters, Banners & Painting of Public Buildings			1. Whether Posters/Banners Installed: [Yes/No] 2. Locations (Hospitals, Bus Stops, Railway Stations, etc.): 3. Whether Public Buildings Painted: [Yes/No]

Loudspeaker Announcement			1. Whether Announcements Made: [Yes/No] 2. Any Collaborations with Transport Hubs (Railway Stations, Bus Stands): [Yes/No]
Local Newspapers & Radio			1. Number of Legal Awareness Columns Published: [Total] 2. Names of Newspapers Engaged: [List major newspapers] 3. Whether Radio Announcements/Broadcasts done: [Yes/No] 4. Names of Radio Stations Engaged: [List major stations]
Digital Awareness Initiatives			1. Number of Posts on YouTube/Facebook/Instagram/X: [Total] 2. Whether Legal Awareness Messages Sent via WhatsApp/SMS: [Yes/No]
Educational Institution/ Schools			1. Number of events done with them:

4. Performance of Permanent Legal Aid Clinics (PLACs)

Village Name	No. of Beneficiaries Assisted	Types of Cases Handled	Details of Panel Lawyer in PLAC
(Add rows as needed)			

5. Key Observations & Challenges

- Community Participation: High/Medium/Low
- Common Legal Issues Identified:
- Challenges in Implementation:

FORMAT C: REPORTING FORMAT FOR DLSA (DISTRICT UNIT) TO SLSA

1. General Information

   - District Name: _____
   - Reporting Period: From //____ to //____

2. Summary of Legal Awareness & Outreach Activities (Consolidated)

Taluk Name	Total Villages	Villages Covered	Total Awareness Sessions Conducted	No. of Attendees	Mobile Legal Aid Vans Deployed (Yes/No)	Subjects covered	Resource Persons Involved (Name/ Contact no.)
(Add rows for each Taluk)							

Total Wards	Wards Covered	Total Awareness Sessions Conducted	No. of Attendees	Mobile Legal Aid Vans Deployed (Yes/No)	Subjects covered	Resource Persons Involved (Name/ Contact no.)
(Add rows if required)						

3. Details of Awareness Activities Conducted (Taluk-wise Compilation)

Mode of Dissemination used	District Name/Taluk Name	Village Name/Wards Name	Details
Awareness through Gram Sabha Meetings			1. No. of Gram Sabha Meeting where awareness done: 2. Topics:
Public Screening			1. Whether Public Screenings done: [Yes/No] 2. Total Audience Reached: [Estimated number]
Street Plays & Puppetry Shows			1. Total Number of Nukkad Nataks Conducted: [Total] 2. Total Number of Puppetry Shows: [Total] 3. Total Audience Reached: [Estimated number]

Posters, Banners & Painting of Public Buildings			1. Whether Posters/Banners Installed: [Yes/No] 2. Locations (Hospitals, Bus Stops, Railway Stations, etc.): 3. Whether Public Buildings Painted: [Yes/No]
Loudspeaker Announcement			1. Whether Announcements Made: [Yes/No] 2. Any Collaborations with Transport Hubs (Railway Stations, Bus Stands): [Yes/No]
Local Newspapers & Radio			1. Number of Legal Awareness Columns Published: [Total] 2. Names of Newspapers Engaged: [List major newspapers] 3. Whether Radio Announcements/ Broadcasts: [Yes/No] 4. Names of Radio Stations Engaged: [List major stations]
Digital Awareness Initiatives			1. Number of Posts on YouTube/Facebook/ Instagram/X: [Total] 2. Whether Legal Awareness Messages Sent via WhatsApp/SMS: [Yes/No]
Educational Institution/ Schools			1. Number of events done with them:

4. Performance of Permanent Legal Aid Clinics (PLACs)

Taluk Name	**Total PLACs Established**	**No. of Beneficiaries Assisted**	**Types of Cases Handled**	**Challenges Faced**	**Details of Panel Lawyers in PLAC(Name/ Contact no.) (Attach different list for this)**
(Add rows for each Taluk)					

5. Key Impact Metrics & Outcomes

- Total Villages Reached: _____
- Total Individuals Benefited: _____
- Most Common Legal Issues Identified: (List 3-4 recurring concerns)
- Most Effective Awareness Medium: (e.g., Nukkad Natak, Public Screening, Clinics)
- Challenges in Implementation:

FORMAT D: REPORT ON LEGAL SERVICES & AWARENESS PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED BY DISTRICT & TALUK UNITS.

(To be submitted by SLSA to NALSA after compilation of reports from DLSAs on a monthly basis)

STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY (SLSA) REPORT TO NALSA

State: _____

Reporting Period: _____

1. Summary of Legal Awareness & Outreach Activities held across the state

District Name	Total Villages	Villages covered	Total Awareness Sessions Conducted	Mobile Legal Aid Vans Deployed (yes/No)	Total number of attendees
(add rows as required)					

Total Wards	Wards Covered	Total Awareness Sessions Conducted	Mobile Legal Aid Vans Deployed (Yes/ No)	Total number of attendees
(Add rows if required)				

2. Details of Mode of Dissemination Used

Mode of Dissemination used	District Name/ Taluk Name	Village Name/ Ward Name	Awareness Mode Used	
			Yes	No
Awareness through Gram Sabha Meetings				
Public Screening				
Street Plays & Puppetry Shows				
Posters, Banners & Painting of Public Buildings				
Loudspeaker Announcement				
Local Newspapers & Radio				
Digital Awareness Initiatives				
Educational Institution/ Schools				

3. Performance of Permanent Legal Aid Clinics (PLACs) at Panchayat Level

District Name	Total PLACs Established	No. of Beneficiary Assisted	Types of Cases
(add rows as required)			

4. Key Impact Metrics & Outcomes

- Total Villages Reached: _____
- Total Wards Reached: _____
- Total Individuals Benefited: _____
- Most Common Legal Issues Addressed: _____
- Most Effective Awareness Medium (Nukkad Natak, Public Screening, Clinics, etc.):



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