

NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY राष्ट्रीय विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण

Commendation Ceremony of Best PLVs, Panel Lawyers, DLSAs & SLSAs 9th November, 2019 at Additional Building Complex, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi

COMPILATION
BEST PANEL LAWYERS
2019

<u>INDEX</u>

S. No.	Content	Page Nos.
1.	Preface	1
2.	East Zone	2-11
	1.1 Jharkhand	2
	1.2 Odisha	5
	1.3 West Bengal	7
	1.4 Chhattisgarh	9
	1.5 Uttar Pradesh	10
	1.6 Bihar	11
3.	North-East Zone	12-24
	2.1 Arunachal Pradesh	12
	2.2 Assam	15
	2.3 Manipur	17
	2.4 Meghalaya	18
	2.5 Mizoram	19
	2.6 Nagaland	21
	2.7 Sikkim	23
	2.8 Tripura	24
4.	North Zone	25-37
4.	North Zone	25-37
	3.1 Haryana	25
	3.2 Himachal Pradesh	28
	3.3 Jammu & Kashmir	29
	3.4 Punjab	32
	3.5 Uttarakhand	36
5.	South Zone	38-48
3.	South Zone	30-40
	4.1 Andhra Pradesh	38
	4.2 Karnataka	41
	4.3 Kerala	43
	4.4 Tamil Nadu	45
	4.5 Telangana	47

6.	Small States/UTs	49-61
	5.1 Andaman & Nicobar Islands	49
	5.2 UT of Chandigarh	50
	5.3 UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli	53
	5.4 Daman & Diu	54
	5.5 Delhi	55
	5.6 Goa	58
	5.7 Lakshadweep	59
	5.8 Puducherry	60
7.	West Zone	62-68
	6.1 Gujarat	62
	6.2 Madhya Pradesh	64
	6.3 Maharashtra	65
	6.4 Rajasthan	68

PREFACE

Today the scope of legal aid has widened covering several socio-legal domains of a common man's life. Nonetheless, a basic premise of legal aid is provision of legal assistance to people who are otherwise unable to afford legal representation and access to the formal justice system. Since barriers to formal legal justice system reinforce inequality, poverty and exclusion, the role and importance of Panel Lawyers is yet another important standpoint of the legal aid program.

However, what sets a Panel Lawyer apart is the undying spirit and passion for service, to serve the poor and realize the mission of legal empowerment of all. They use their legal knowledge and professional training for the welfare of the poor and marginalized. It is on the Panel Lawyers to ensure that competent legal support is not a domain of a privileged few but that of every person, irrespective of social or financial constraints. Upon them rests the edifice of legal aid delivery. They also go beyond the call and spread legal awareness among the masses, provide legal services in legal aid clinics and camps and thus contribute effectively to true empowerment.

A Panel Lawyer serves as the key source of legal aid and provide services at the clinics, in jails, protections homes, observation homes etc. It would be apt to say that the idea behind panel lawyers is to take the justice to the door steps of the poor and needy and guide him to the temples of justice. Another important dimension of their multifaceted role is that of mentoring the Para Legal Volunteers.

Their legal acumen and ground knowledge ensures that the legal aid beneficiaries are completely represented and are kept informed and aware. While their dynamic role has many aspects, Following are the key parameters identified for according due recognition to those Panel Lawyers who have made a difference through their passion and excellence.

- The ability to perform in a range of work-related activities.
- Handling of legal aid work with professionalism and responsiveness with special emphasis on punctuality in attending the legal aided cases in courts, updating the clients and the front office.
- Impact of work at the institution/societal and individual levels.
- Assistance in achievement of organizational goals.
- Completion of task assigned.
- Participation in capacity building programme.

This compilation contains gist of the work done by Panel Lawyers selected as best for the year, 2019 by their respective State Legal Services Authorities.

Member Secretary National Legal Services Authority

1. EAST ZONE BEST PANEL LAWYERS

(Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar.

1.1 JHARKHAND STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Shri Boyar Singh Nag

DLSA: Khunti

- ➤ Sh. Boyar Singh Nag has been working as a Panel Lawyer under DLSA, Khunti since 2015. With the spirit of providing support and services to the poor and marginalised sections of the society, he has been serving in different capacities such as Court Annexed Legal Service Panel Lawyer, Jail Visiting Lawyer and also as the visiting lawyer of Legal Services Clinics.
- ➤ He regularly attends different Legal Aid Clinics of Khunti on Sundays and Wednesdays. During the period, he participated in many other activities of the DLSA like Awareness Programs, Literacy Classes, Training Sessions and Empowerment Camps etc. In each of the capacities, he has done a commendable work.
- ➤ During the period, 15 legal aided cases were assigned to him and he rendered his services with utmost professionalism and provided prompt updates to the authorities and parties concerned.
- > Sri Nag is a mentor to 12 PLVs of Khunti DLSA and his commitment to his work is exemplary.
- ➤ Sri B.S.Nag was deputed at the Tribal Legal Aid Clinic, Sosokuti, P.S.-Arki, District-Khunti which is densely inhabited by tribals. He virtually converted the Sosokuti LAC as One Stop Centre for the Tribal people,

- where his team had three verticals, namely, Elderly People, Women and College Students. The team members helped the Panel Lawyer in collecting legal aid applications, identified the issues of the villages, etc.
- ➤ Shri Nag had done extensive padyatras to dissuade the tribal people from hunting down forest animals in the name of the Sendra tradition, so as to promote ecological balance and eco-friendly life style.
- ➤ Sri Nag helped in connecting the tribal kids to school and grant of scholarships to children of poor tribal parents. His dedication had led benefits to 40 children by distributing school bags, books and stationery.
- ➤ 36 Trafficked girl victims were helped by Shri Nag to get admission in Kasturba Residential Schools.
- ➤ Further, he helped 387 people to receive cycles under a scheme of the Welfare Department. 22 others were also benefited under Medhavi Putra-Putri Sahayata Yozna through his efforts.
- ➤ He is a regular resource person of Legal Literacy Classes in the Schools' *Legal Literacy Clubs* of Khunti, where he undertakes 5 classes per month.
- ➤ He participated in different Jail Adalats/Lok Adalats/National Lok Adalats and was instrumental in disposing off about 109 cases.
- ➤ During the period, his pro-bono teams persuaded the villagers to form self-help groups (SHG). His efforts resulted in the formation of 6 SHGs to which credit facilities were provided by the banks. These SHGs are engaged in making Jharcraft items, honey, Agarbattis, candles, Decorative items etc. Through his efforts, he was also able to benefit around 262 beneficiaries under the State Livelihood Promotion Society Scheme which provided the benefit of Bank Credit Linkage of around Rs 1,00,000/- to each SHG.

- ➤ Shri B.S.Nag holds Cycle Yatra in the first week of every month regularly. This innovative method of Outreach has endeared him to the local people.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer put in great efforts to connect the Khunti people with various Govt Beneficial schemes related to the departments of Agriculture, Fisheries, Soil Conservation and Animal Husbandry which provided benefits like pump set distribution, soil healthcard, distribution of agricultural machine and various other agricultural equipments. Through his dedication, more than 700 local people were benefited.
- Due to non-institutional delivery in the forest areas of Khunti the mortality rate during delivery remained high during the period, than the national average. Shri B.S. Nag formed a pro-bono team of women to create awareness about institutional delivery. In the said awareness activities, the Matritava Prasuwidha Yozna, Poshahar Yojna, etc. was popularized. The benefits of these schemes were provided to a number of women. Moreover, the Panel Lawyer also aided in providing benefits of the MUHJUTHI YOZNA to 27 infants.
- ➤ Shri B.S.Nag with his team sensitized the Community Elders of the hillocks and its adjoining areas to protect the hillocks from crushers. In association with the District Mining Officer, the Pahar Bachao Abhiyan was launched by them for reforestation of the hillocks.
- ➤ During the period, he participated actively in three Mega Legal Empowerment Camps held at Khunti where thousands of poor and marginalized people were benefitted.

1.2 ODISHA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Shri Tarini Prasad Pothal

DLSA: Keonjhar

- ➤ Shri Tarini Prasad Pothal is a trained Panel Lawyer working under the DLSA, Keonjhar since 2018. At present, he is working as a Front Office Retainer in the said DLSA.
- He is a sincere, dedicated and active Legal Services Activist who is involved in various legal services activities starting from Legal literacy/awareness campaign to rescuing the people in distress, helping the helpless and needy and rehabilitating the deserted and destitute.
- During the period, he has conducted many Legal Aided Cases in different Courts. He interacted with the victims and other beneficiaries and tried to solve their problems at his level. He also drafted and submitted the applications on behalf of the beneficiaries before the DLSA, Keonjhar and helped them get legal aid from the DLSA.
- He actively participated with the DLSA to organize Legal Literacy Programmes and other events on Special Days.
- He attended the Jail Legal Aid Clinic inside the District Jail, Keonjhar and helped a number of UTPs to get their grievances redressed.
- ➤ He has performed his works which were assigned to him by the DLSA, regularly and sincerely.
- Family Members of Prisoners' had interacted with the prisoners in District Jail, Keonjhar. During the campaign, he came to know from one prisoner namely 'A' (name withheld) that his wife 'B' was suffering from mental illness and that no one was there in her family to take care of her and she

- needed immediate medical treatment. The Panel Lawyer submitted an application before the D.L.S.A Office, Keonjhar, intimating it about the same. Due to the efforts of Mr Tarini Prasad and the DLSA, said 'B' was treated by the Psychiatrist of District Headquarter Hospital, Keonjhar.
- In another case, while interacting with the convict/prisoner 'V' (name withheld), the Panel Lawyer came to know that the convict/prisoner was suffering from cataract (Motia Bindu). The Panel Lawyer brought this fact to the knowledge of the DLSA and helped 'V' to get treatment in the District Headquarter Hospital.
- Pone 'P' (name withheld), being a transgender of Tankajoda, P.S.-Harichandanpur, District-Keonjhar was not allowed to stay in their ancestral house which came to the notice of Sri Tarini Prasad Pothal. He filed an application on behalf of 'P' wherein the District Social Security Officer, Keonjhar was requested to provide accommodation and allotment of a house in favour of 'P' under the Biju Pucca Ghara Yojona. A house was allotted to 'P' but the family members did not allow 'P' to construct the house. A case was filed before the Permanent & Continuous Lok Adalat and the family members of 'P' were called to the DLSA office for conciliation. With the constant efforts of the Panel Lawyer, the matter got settled and 'P' is now staying with his family members by constructing the house in their ancestral land.

1.3WEST BENGAL STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Mr. Kallol Mondal

DLSA: WBSLSA

- ➤ Mr. Kallol Mondal has been enrolled in the panel of WBSLSA in the year, 2013 and since then he has been faithfully serving the Authority by providing legal assistance to the downtrodden. He has participated in various legal awareness campaigns including talk shows organized for spreading legal awareness.
- ➤ Being an advocate of the High Court at Calcutta Mr. Kallol Mondal has appeared on behalf of the people who had approached the Legal Services Institutions for availing free legal services.
- ➤ Mr. Mondal always empathized with the relatives, friends and family members of the persons whom he had provided legal assistance. In view of the same, he strived to provide regular information regarding the status of the cases to the friends and family of those whom he was representing.
- ➤ Mr. Mondal also maintained his practice to update the Legal Services Authorities about the details of the cases he was handling and regularly informed them about the steps taken on behalf of the litigants.
- ➤ He represented the SLSA in various writ matters, assisted women in filing RTI queries and also represented numerous women, senior citizens, prisoners before various authorities.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer was appointed to appear on behalf of the convicted persons in several Criminal Appeals which were preferred before the Hon'ble Calcutta High Court and in each of those instances Mr. Mondal has promptly and decisively taken actions on behalf of his clients which resulted in the admission of most of the criminal appeals by the said Court.

>	He also strived his best to spread legal literacy and awareness at masses through legal awareness camps, television talk shows or the SLSA. He diligently attended training programs for alternative resolution methods such as mediation.	ganized by
		Page 8 of 73

1.4 CHHATTISGARH STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Kumari Leena Cahini

DLSA: Raigarh

- Assisted DLSA in disseminating information on the subject "Sexual Harassment of Females at their Work-Place" at Prasar Bharti, Doordarshan and Aakashwani Kendra, Raigarh.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer aided in spreading information about the provisions of New Juvenile Justice Act on the radio. She tried to make people aware about the legal assistance to children under the said Act.
- After listening the talk on radio, many people from the nearby villages contacted her and inquired about the availability of legal aid. She made people aware of the availability of free legal aid and how to access it.
- ➤ She actively participated in all the legal services programmes/camps organized by the DLSA.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer, on 28-8-2019, sensitized the parties of the pending cases in the Family Courts about the legal provisions on various family laws and the assistance provided by the Legal Services Institutions in this regard.

1.5 UTTAR PRADESH STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Sri Pawan Kumar

DLSA: Aligarh

- > Sri Pawan Kumar is associated with the DLSA as a jail visitor since 2011.
- ➤ He is committed towards the work of the DLSA.
- ➤ He worked in almost all the areas of the DLSA related activities like camps, workshops, providing legal aid to prisoners, etc.
- ➤ He represented the inmates in their cases before the respective courts.
- During the reported period, he made 192 visits to the DLSA office.
- ➤ He has actively provided legal advice to the jail inmates.

1.6 BIHAR STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: SRI ONKAR PANDEY

DLSA: Patna

- ➤ Sri Onkar Pandey has been empanelled as a Panel Lawyer at the DLSA, Patna. He worked as a Panel Lawyer in "Nyaya Samadhan" Centre Legal Assistance Establishment at BSLSA. He has been working as a Jail Visiting Lawyer and actively participating in the activities of the Legal Services Authorities.
- Sri Onkar Pandey during this period had attended the Court on the fixed dates in the particular cases handled by him in different civil courts of Patna. He helped many prisoners by moving their applications for getting bail and secured their release.
- ➤ He visited the Jail Legal Services Clinic on a regular basis. Sri Onkar Pandey assisted 200 inmates in filling applications.
- ➤ He participated in various training-cum-sensitization programmes organised by the BSLSA.
- ➤ Sri Onkar Pandey also participated in the Legal Awareness Camps at Beur.
- ➤ Under the directions of BSLSA, the Panel Lawyer interacted with 3483 inmates. 712 applications were received by him for providing legal assistance to their family members.
- ➤ Sri Onkar Pandey helped in connecting the people with the various government welfare schemes like education, health and rights etc.

North-East Zone Best PANEL LAWYERs

(Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura)

2.1 ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Ms SENYA LOWANG

DLSA: Tirap DLSA

- ➤ The Tirap district is declared as a "Disturbed Area" by the Government of India.
- ➤ Panel Lawyer Ms Senya Lowlang is totally dedicated to the profession. She was appointed as a Legal Aid Counsel and Remand Advocate for the Tirap DLSA and the judicial court.
- ➤ She assisted DLSA in conducting the Legal Awareness Programmes wherein she had organised the events flawlessly and rendered her services in various forms.
- ➤ As a Resource Person, she attended many Legal Awareness Programmes and gave talks on various legal as well as, socio-legal topics.
- ➤ Her management skills, ability to work under pressure, right attitude to deal with any section of the society, resolute and ability to analyse and solve legal problems in a subtle manner to ensure justice, is remarkable.
- ➤ She handled legal aided cases assigned to her with great zeal and defended many innocents as well as helped in speedy disposal of cases.
- ➤ She helped the victims of crime to apply for compensation under the Arunachal Pradesh Victim Compensation Scheme, 2011.
- ➤ She visits the Sub-Jail, Khonsa on every Saturday and interacts with the UTPs for counselling and educates them on Prisoners' Rights.

- ➤ She is always eager to render free legal aid and assistance to the poor and underprivileged persons. She educated numerous illiterate people of Tirap District by informing them of their Legal Rights and provisions.
- ➤ She attended every Training Programmes conducted by the Arunachal Pradesh SLSA.
- In a case, one boy was taken away by the members of NLFT (National Liberation Front of Tripura) on the pretext of employment in Bangalore from his village Radhapur in Tripura. However, he was taken to Burma at the age of 18 years and was trained to be a member of NLFT. Having no means of contacting his family members he was trapped for two years in the vicinity of Burma-India border. He somehow managed to escape from the camp and arrived at an Indian army camp and surrendered before the Army. He was presented before the JMFC Court, Khonsa where Advocate Senya Lowang, upon being appointed as his Legal Aid Counsel managed to contact his family members with the help of the District Commissioner Office of Tripura. Due to the sincere efforts of the Panel Lawyer, the boy was released on bail and finally got united with his family members.
- ➤ In another matter, one 'J' (name withheld), mother of four minor daughters, who, was a victim of domestic violence, had once attended one of the Legal awareness programme where Advocate Senya Lowang was the resource person and contacted DLSA. The said Panel Lawyer was provided to her to file a maintenance case on her behalf. She filed a Petition under section 125 of Cr.P.C. for maintenance against the husband. The husband did not comply with the court orders and the Panel Lawyer filed another petition under Section 125 (3) Cr.P.C. Later on, he was released only after he paid the arrears of interim maintenance. Since then, the petitioner is receiving the maintenance amount on time. Her daughters could continue their studies due to this assistance.

➤ One 'R' (name withheld), a 14 years old boy was facing trial in a criminal case. Advocate Senya Lowang was appointed as his Legal Aid Counsel. She interacted with 'R' and came to know that he was only 14 years old. She immediately moved an application before the court concerned to declare 'R', a child in conflict with law and to transfer his case to JJB. Due to the efforts of the Panel Lawyer, 'R' was released on bail under section 12 of the Juvenile Justice Act. Not only this, she also helped 'R' to get admission in a school to continue his education.

2.2 ASSAM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Sri Jayanta Kr. Brahma,

DLSA, Udalguri, Assam

- ➤ Mr. Jayanta Kr. Brahma is associated as a Legal Aid Counsel with the DLSA, Udalguri since its inception. He has successfully put across his views and opinions regarding issues which bear a direct impact on the society and its progress.
- ➤ During the period, he had succeeded in initiating various legal awareness camps, meetings and thus, bringing to the local platform, the knowledge of various laws and schemes of the Government.
- ➤ He assisted the PLVs in conducting camps against 'witch hunting' and other such evil practices which affected the district of Udalguri.
- ➤ Mr. Brahma is a jail visiting advocate and visits the Jail regularly. He helped the inmates in redressing their grievances by filing applications before the appropriate authorities.
- ➤ He has taken appropriate steps and effectively handled all the matters entrusted to him by the DLSA, Udalguri.
- ➤ Mr. Brahma attended 15 meetings organized at different places on different social issues, NALSA Schemes and Special days.
- In an instance, a woman prisoner 'N' (name withheld) in Udalguri district Jail during her imprisonment gave birth to a baby. At the time of her release, the baby was three (3) months old. After her release, 'N' had no place to go as she was deserted by her family. The Panel Lawyer, on knowing her situation, got her and her child admitted in Nirmal Achray home under the guidance of CWC.

In another instance, one 'P' family hosted a religious ceremony wherein nearly hundred villagers including women and children fell ill after consuming contaminated grams offered as prasad. A 10 year old girl child namely, 'J' died during her treatment at GMCH. Following the incident, the outraged villagers charged the 'P' family of conspiring to kill the villagers and filed F.I.R against the couple leading to their arrest and judicial custody. The estranged children fearing for their safety and security were taken away by the relatives. To secure the future of the children, Mr. Brahma approached the DLSA, Udalguri, recommended to intimate the CWC. Due to the efforts of the Panel Lawyer, the custody of the children was handed over to ROSS Child Home. The Panel Lawyer aided in resuming the education of the children. Besides this, the Panel Lawyer assisted the DLSA in organizing a Legal Awareness Camp at the aforesaid village and took steps in neutralizing the anger of the villagers.

2.3 MANIPUR STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Sh Thingbaijam Sudhir Meetei

DLSA: Bishnupur DLSA

- ➤ During the period, Shri Th. Sudhir Meetai handled 19 legal aided cases with professionalism. He was found to be punctual in attending legal aided cases in courts, updating the clients and the front office. He also attended all the Training Programmes of the Panel Lawyers organised by the Manipur SLSA/ Bishnupur DLSA.
- ➤ Shri Th. Sudhir Meetei actively participated in many other activities organized by Bishnupur DLSA such as Legal Awareness Programmes, Legal Services Camps, etc. He participated as a Resource Person in many programmes.
- ➤ He also participated in the "Campaign for Legal Assistance to the Family Members of Jail Inmates" held during May-July, 2019. During the campaign, Shri Th. Sudhir Meetei visited the families of 7 convicts of Bishnupur District for providing assistance to their family members.
- ➤ Shri Th. Sudhir Meetei was deputed as a Visiting Panel Lawyer in different Legal Aid Clinics wherein he provides legal advice / counselling, etc. once a week.

2.4 MEGHALAYA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: SMTI. LARILYN WARJRI, DLSA: Shillong DLSA

Activities/work done:

In one matter, a woman named 'D' was married at an age of 18 years and out of the said wedlock, a baby was born. In the meantime, she noticed several changes in her husband's behaviour and subsequently, she came to know that her husband was a drug-addict. She faced a lot of agony and was unable to support herself as well as, her baby. Due to her tender age, she could not handle the hardships and started using the drugs of her husband. One day, while waiting at Police Bazar, she was arrested as she was found carrying drugs and was sent to prison. During her imprisonment, 'D' underwent drugs rehabilitation and was released on bail with the help of the Legal Aid Counsel Ms. L. Warjri. Later on, she went to Kolkata in search of employment wherein she was arrested in a theft case at Kolkata. She was all alone and her family member could not afford to go to Kolkata. Miss. L. Warjri helped her get legal aid from LSI situated at Kolkata. Further, Miss. L. Warjri helped the family members with regard to the problem faced by them in respect of the Kolkata case. The Panel Lawyer also helped 'D' in pleading guilty in both the cases by pre-poning the dates of the cases and thus, she was convicted for the period already undergone by the court. Both the cases were disposed of and the family was united. Due to the efforts of Ms L Warjri, 'D' is free from the use of drugs as well.

2.5 MIZORAM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Mr. Johny Lalengmawia Tochhawng

DLSA: Aizawl

Activities/Work Done:

➤ Since July, 2019 Mr. Johny Lalengmawia Tochhawng has been appearing as a pro-bono lawyer in all the legal aid cases assigned to him.

- ➤ In a guardianship case, he was appointed as a legal aid lawyer to 'B' (name withheld) who was the biological mother of the minor child. At that time the child was living with his paternal grandmother after the demise of his father. Due to the efforts and counselling provided by the panel lawyer, both the parties were able to arrive at a settlement and the matter was amicably resolved.
- One 'R' (name withheld) had given Rs 1,55,000/- to one 'L' (name withheld) as a friendly loan in the year 2016, on the condition that he would pay back the entire amount within a period of two years. Despite repeated request of 'R', he failed to repay the amount. Hence, the recovery suit was filed by 'R'. Mr Johny was appointed as a legal aid counsel to 'R'. As soon as he was appointed as legal aid counsel in the matter, he counselled both the parties to resolve the issue. After 3 joint meetings both the parties agreed for amicable settlement.
- During a Legal Awareness Campaign at Lungkawlh Village, Serchhip District, the village representative informed the Panel Lawyer that the villagers of the said village are using Jio SIM cards but, there was no signal at the village and that they had to climb up the hill in order to use their cell phone and requested the Panel Lawyer to help. The Panel Lawyer approached the Jio Authorities at Aizawl and Lunglei and moved an application before the authorities apprising them about the problems faced

- by the villagers. Due to the constant efforts of the panel lawyer, a new tower was installed at N. Vanlaiphai Village which squarely covered Lungkawlh Village.
- ➤ Since July, 2019 to September, 2019, he has provided pro bono services in 8 cases. Moreover, he handled legal aid work quickly and sincerely.
- ➤ Being one of the Conciliators in the Lok Adalat, he participated 15 times in Lok Adalats including National Lok Adalats held by the Mizoram SLSA and DLSA, Aizawl.
- ➤ He participated as a Resource Person in various Legal Awareness Campaigns including two training programmes for PLVs, organized by Mizoram SLSA and spread awareness amongst the people on various topics which included Public Interest Litigation, Cyber Crime, Human Trafficking, NDPS Act, Adoption Laws, Consumer's Right, Environmental Laws, Laws related to children, women and Senior citizen etc.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer was appointed as a Programme and Scheduling Partaker of Qanoon Ki Baat Programme produced by All India Radio, Aizwal Station. Besides, live phone in programme was organized by the said station wherein he disseminated information on different NALSA schemes and responded to the queries of the live audience and listeners.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer had attended three days training programme on 'Cyber Crime' sponsored by Mizoram SLSA.
- ➤ Mr. Johny has a good working relationship with the PLVs.
- As an appreciation of his performance by the society, NGOs and other institutions, he was empanelled as a lawyer in various banking and other financial institutions. He was also appointed as a Media Adviser.

2.6 NAGALAND STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Ms. Sanchobeni. P Lotha

DLSA: WOKHA

- ➤ Ms. Sanchobeni P Lothais is working as a Panel Lawyer under the DLSA, Wokha since 2017.
- ➤ During the period, Ms. Sanchobeni participated in three National Lok Adalats in which around 63 cases were taken up by the DLSA.
- She assisted the DLSA in organizing Awareness Programmes, Legal Awareness Camps, campaigns, etc at various levels.
- ➤ There were mass natural calamities affecting the populace of Kiphire.

 Ms. Sanchobeni organised a *fund drive* at Wokha District to provide aid to the victims of disaster for Kiphire district.
- ➤ Ms. Sanchobeni in co-ordination with the District Administration organised 11 Collaborative programs in observance of important days such as World Mental Health Day, International Day for Person with Disability, Human Rights Day, International Earth Day, International Labour Day, etc. She participated as a Resource Person in the said programmes.
- ➤ Ms. Sanchobeni participated in different capacities in around 18 awareness programmes at different levels wherein she spread awareness amongst the masses on various topics such as protection of rights of UTPs, Women and Child, Pre-Natal Diagnostic Technique (PNDT), Health Awareness, Child Rights, Road Safety, Awareness Drive, Legal Services and awareness to the Victims of Drug Abuse & Eradication of Drug Menace etc.
- ➤ Ms. Sanchobeni participated in a week long Door to Door campaign in Wokha Sub-Division.

- ➤ She actively participated in NALSA's campaign for providing legal assistance to family members of prisoners. During the campaign, she interacted with 28 inmates out of which, 12 inmates expressed their desire to avail legal services to their family members and accordingly, it was provided.
- ➤ In a matter, one widow aged 24 years approached the panel lawyer for help. She stated that her husband who was in the army passed away leaving behind two minor daughters. After the demise of her husband, her in-laws were ill- treating her and her two minor daughters. Her in-laws threatened her as both the children were girls, and that none of them had any right to claim any moveable, immovable property or pension benefits. The Panel Lawyer helped the lady to claim her right as well as, on behalf of her minor daughters, being their natural guardian. Due to the help extended by the panel lawyer, the widow was able to get all the benefits.
- ➤ In another family matter, the Panel Lawyer Ms. Sanchobeni. P Lotha came to the rescue of a lady and her 3 month old child, who were deserted by her husband under the influence of her in-laws due to inter-tribe marraige. The Panel Lawyer then counselled the couple and helped them to reconcile with each other.
- ➤ In one case, accused 'BK' (name withheld) was facing trial on the allegation of stealing a pair of sandal. The Panel Lawyer defended his case and was able to get him released on probation of one year. Besides that, in order to rehabilitate 'BK', the panel lawyer facilitated vocational training for him after completion of the probation period.
- ➤ Ms. Sanchobeni rendered legal counselling and advice to 8 accused/UTPs at Jail, on production, during trial and after case disposal.
- ➤ During the period, the panel lawyer represented the legal aided beneficiaries whose cases were assigned to her by the DLSA concerned, before the court of law.

2.7 SIKKIM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Ms. Puja Lamichaney DLSA: West Sikkim

- ➤ Ms Puja Lamichaney was empanelled with Sikkim SLSA in the year 2007 and has been dealing with all kinds of legal aid activities. She has handled the legal aid work assigned to her in an effective and professional manner.
- ➤ She is responsive and gives special emphasis on punctuality in attending the legal aided cases in courts as well as, in the Lok Adalats and Mediation at the West District.
- Apart from the Legal Aided cases assigned to her, she has imparted counseling to women and children pro-bono.
- ➤ She has appeared in many cases as Amicus Curiae apart from the legal aid cases.
- ➤ She has actively participated in different legal awareness programmes, legal aid clinics, legal aid camps and other related activities and also generated awareness about the availability of free legal aid services and Legal Aid programmes amongst the public and their entitlements.
- ➤ She also visits the Child Care Institutions to assess the legal and other needs of children.
- ➤ She has visited the District Prison, Boomtar, South Sikkim and interacted with the UTPs to address their legal needs.
- ➤ She also ensures that all the tasks assigned to her by the DLSA is completed on time and satisfactorily.
- ➤ She has participated as a Resource Person in various legal awareness programmes organized by the DLSA, West Sikkim.
- ➤ She also participated as a Trainer in various programmes organized by the said DLSA.

The n	name of best l	PANEL LAV	WYER has	not been reco	ommended by
State	Legal Services	s Authority f	or the Comn	nendation Cer	remony.

North Zone Best PANEL LAWYERs

(Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Uttarakhand)

3.1 HARYANA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Mr. Jagat Singh Rawat

DLSA: Palwal

- ➤ Mr Jagat Singh Rawat was enrolled as a Panel Lawyer in the year 2012 with the DLSA, Palwal.
- ➤ He has actively participated and attended monthly meetings, workshop, training programmes etc. He also attended all the outstation tours undertaken by SESTF for getting samples and making people and officials aware about the Yamuna River Cleanliness and about Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- ➤ He was also appointed as a resource person to conduct 7 workshops/ seminars/ sensitization programmes /Training Programmes under the NALSA module and other Laws related to the needy, for newly appointed Panel Advocates/PLV's, Doctors, Law Students, etc.
- ➤ Due to the efforts of the Panel Lawyer, 7 Drop-out children were admitted in the school under the campaign 'Shiksha Mera Adhikar'. Anti-drug clubs were formed in 2 schools of Palwal under the campaign.
- ➤ 191 Labourers were identified and Mr. Jagat Singh filled up the forms of those labourers to get them connected to the different welfare schemes.
- ➤ Grievances of 7 students regarding non-issuing of their admit cards by their college authorities, were resolved within 24 hours successfully, with the personal efforts of Mr Jagat Singh under the supervision of the CJM-cum-Secretary DLSA, Palwal. The aforesaid students were allowed to appear in their examinations.

- Pensions to 5 old age people, 3 destitute women, 3 disabled persons, and 11 other persons were facilitated by the Panel Lawyer with the help of the District Social Welfare Office, Palwal.
- The Panel Lawyer helped 2 Girls to receive benefits of a sum of Rupees 45,000 & Rupees 10,000/- respectively under the Mukhya Mantri Vivah Shagun Yojna from District Welfare Office, Palwal, for their marriage.
- ➤ He also helped a farmer to get benefit under the scheme of Pradhan Mantri Kissan Samman Nidhi.
- ➤ He has helped in resolving two pre-litigative matters. In one matter the labourer got his labour charge, which was denied by the owner of the field. In the other matter, a senior citizen was expelled by his heirs. His sons were called and counselled to take care of their father. They took him home and promised to serve and look after him properly in future.
- During "Aadhikaron ka Mela" two disabled persons namely Bijender and a child Vishnu were identified. Mr. Jagat Singh visited their homes and provided them the required legal assistance. He also assisted Mr. Bijender to get his disability reassessed and also helped other disabled children in getting medically examined for obtaining Disability Certificates from the Government Hospital, Palwal.
- ➤ He was appointed as a Legal Aid Counsel in 17 Civil/Criminal matters out of which 5 cases were disposed off.
- ▶ He was appointed as a Retainer Lawyer in the Front Office wherein 126 litigants/visitors were advised and attended by him during the period. He drafted applications of 73 litigants regarding public issues and their problems were discussed with the concerned departments/ authorities for their redressal. Besides the above, 45 applications were also drafted by him for free legal aid on behalf of the litigants/visitors and also helped them get legal aid counsels.

- ➤ In discharge of his duties as a Remand Advocate, he attended to 17 litigants and drafted applications on behalf of 7 accused persons for getting free legal aid.
- ➤ He has maintained all the necessary documents and registers like Remand Hours Registers, Case Registers, Updation of Cases of Legal Aid.
- ➤ He has actively participated in all the camps organized by the DLSA on important days.
- ➤ He was also deputed at the Village Legal Care and Support Centres at the Gram Panchayat Level for providing services on Civil, Criminal, Revenue, Administrative matters and providing awareness about the NALSA Schemes and other activities of the DLSA, Palwal. During the period, he provided legal aid and advice to 855 people out of which 90 people were benefitted.
- ➤ Mr. Jagat Singh actively participated and spread awareness in 4 Legal Literacy and 95 Legal Awareness Camps which were organized under various NALSA Schemes, projects of HALSA, different provisions of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, the Constitution of India, laws related to different sections of the society and other laws, Govt. Beneficial Schemes, Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, Importance of ADR mechanism, etc. Around 15,748 people were informed about the availability of free legal services, working of the legal services institutions, entitlements of the public at large under various social welfare schemes. He drafted the applications of different persons for connecting them with the beneficial schemes of the Govt. Around 223 persons were benefited through these awareness programmes camps.
- ➤ He has drafted 192 applications for the people in need of legal help.
- ➤ During the year, Mr Jagat Singh Rawat has attended 4 National Lok Adalats and assisted the Sessions Court in settling 154 cases.

3.2 HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Shri Navlesh Verma

DLSA: High Court of Himachal Pradesh

- Several cases of Legal Aid were assigned to Shri Navlesh Verma, in the High Court. He made sincere efforts to protect the best interests of the parties represented by him in the Hon'ble High Court.
- He dealt with at least 10 cases of convicts.
- ➤ He is representing 4 convicts in the High Court of Himachal Pradesh.
- He is handling Legal Aid work with professionalism and responsiveness. He is punctual in attending Legal Aid Cases in the High Court and updating the clients and Front Office.
- ➤ He regularly participated in the Legal Services Activities including Afforestation, Cleanliness Drives and various Legal Services Programmes and Seminars.
- ➤ He also attended awareness camps, which were organized under NALSA Schemes, Legal Literacy Camps, Legal Services Camps, etc.
- ➤ He is associated with ADR Mechanism and has encouraged the litigants to settle their cases by way of Lok Adalat/Mediation.
- He has remained enthusiastic in dealing with the free legal aid cases assigned to him.
- ➤ He was quite prompt in filing appeals before the High Court.

3.3. JAMMU & KASHMIR STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Mr. Mubashir Ahmad Shah

DLSA: Anantnag

Activities and Work Done:

➤ Mr Mubashir Ahmad Shah is empaneled as Panel Lawyer with DLSA Anantnag. He is posted at the Legal Aid Clinic, District Jail, Anantnag. He has handled all the sensitive work involving numerous issues at the District Jail.

- ➤ The Panel Lawyer along with the concerned PLV have been regularly attending their duties at the District Jail, Anantnag and have addressed the grievances of the inmates/detenues.
- During the period, 115 inmates of the jail visited its Legal Aid Clinic with different types of grievances which included consultation of Prisoners with Medical Specialists, bail matters, providing services of Lawyers to UTPs, reception orders for the Mentally ill prisoners, ensuring segregation of Prisoners, etc. Mr. Mubashir personally interacted with all the inmates and listened to their grievances patiently and effectively and brought the same to the knowledge of the jail authorities and others concerned.
- During this period, an inmate namely 'A' (name withheld) who was detained in default of bail, was informed about his right to bail. But unfortunately, he has no one except his old and ailing mother. The inmates of the said jail collected some meagre cash for securing his bail. However, the cash bail was rejected by the Judicial Magistrate, Dooru. The Panel Lawyer arranged surety for the prisoner and was thus, the prisoner was released on bail.

- ➤ The Panel Lawyer was deputed in 3 Lok Adalats in which he assisted the bench in resolving more than 200 matters.
- ➤ He was the resource person in the legal awareness programmes organized by DLSA Anantnag on the topic "Rights of Prisoners" at the District Jail, Anantnag.
- ➤ He has attended 6 legal awareness programme/workshops/seminars etc and educated participants about cyber crimes, importance of plantation drive etc.
- ➤ He was the resource person and organizer of the programme "Ageing with Dignity" on the World Elder Abuse Awareness day at District Jail, Anantnag.
- ➤ He has also delivered lectures on Anti-ragging Law and Rights of Children at Modern Institute of Education.
- > Due to his versatility all above programs had unprecedented effect on the participants.
- ➤ Apart from attending the Legal Aid Clinic, District Jail, Anantnag, he has extended his services in 9 cases before different Courts situated at District Anantnag.
- ➤ He has been attending the Legal aid cases regularly before the concerned courts and regularly updating the case status and proceedings with the Legal aid office.
- ➤ Every litigant whose case is instituted and pursued by the Panel Lawyer Mr. Mubashir Ahmad, are satisfied by his professionalism and responsiveness and with timely completion of assigned tasks.
- ➤ He has worked as the nodal officer for other District Legal Service Authorities and Tehsil Legal Service Authorities for collection of Data for the "Campaign for family members of prisoner".

- ➤ The Panel Lawyer is regularly attending the Front Office of the DLSA Anantnag. He is entrusted with the complicated matters in view of his dedication & competence to deal with such matters.
- ➤ The panel lawyer always plays a pro-active role in the amicable settlement of disputes especially the pre-litigation matters. He is assisting in the organization of Lok Adalats in the District.

3.4 PUNJAB STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Ms Geetanjali Bali DLSA: SAS Nagar, Mohali

- ➤ Ms. Geetanjali Bali is empanelled as panel lawyer with District Legal Services Authority, SAS Nagar for the past 7 years.
- ➤ She has exceptionally performed all the activities assigned to her such as providing legal assistance and advice, handling legal aided cases etc. She has successfully represented in 36 Legal Aided Cases. She has actively attended and participated many seminars/legal awareness camps, Jail visits, Mediation, Lok Adalats etc. organized by the DLSA.
- ➤ 9 Jail Visits were successfully undertaken by the Panel Lawyer.
- ➤ She puts in great effort to resolve the litigation through compromise as she is herself a trained mediator. 30 cases entrusted to her by the DLSA, SAS Nagar got resolved through compromise.
- ➤ She has actively participated in 36 Seminars/Awareness Programmes wherein the public was made aware about the NALSA Schemes, Projects of Punjab SLSA and various Government welfare schemes. She has covered almost the entire area of District SAS Nagar by conducting Seminars/Awareness Programmes in the Slum Areas, Backward Villages, Schools, Construction Sites, etc.
- ➤ She started a campaign titled 'SAVE THE CHILDREN' and went to places where the children are found to beg. She met them and enquired as to who forced them into begging. She rescued several Children in distress by bringing them to the notice of Police Officials, DLSA, SAS Nagar, District Child Protection Officers and other concerned Stakeholders.
- ➤ During her visit to the Govt. High School, Daun, she came across certain children between the age group of 9 12 years who were drug addicts. She

interacted with the children, made them comfortable, met their parents, went to police station, moved complaints, took police officials with her and due to her arduous efforts the person who supplied drugs to children was immediately arrested. Advocate Geetanjali Bali is now regularly counselling the Children and their parents and steps are being taken by the DLSA, SAS Nagar for their rehabilitation.

- ➤ She played an active role in assisting the DLSA, SAS Nagar in its drive for 'Repatriation of Women' who resided in the shelter home 'Prabh Asra, but belonged to different States. She was deputed to collect information from the aforesaid women about their families and native places which she collected and provided to the DLSA, SAS Nagar. Under this drive, a lady from Maharashtra was repatriated and reunited with her family by providing counselling. Regular follow up about the well-being of the lady is being taken by Advocate Geetanjali Bali.
- As a responsible citizen, Advocate Geetanjali Bali has been promoting sanitation programmes in the rural areas, cleaning streets, roads as well as, District Courts and other areas of District SAS Nagar. In order to achieve the cleanliness goal, she has started a Cleanliness Mission 'EK KADAM SWACHTA KI AUR'. She has sensitized the public, teachers and students to keep their surroundings and environment clean and green.
- Advocate Geetanjali Bali has worked hard for making the 'Campaign for Legal Assistance to the family Members of the Prisoners' a success. She interacted with the prisoners, enquired about the problems faced by them and their families. She filled the forms of the needy inmates which were forwarded to the concerned Authorities by the DLSA, SAS Nagar.

- During her visit to Nabha Maximum Security Jail under the campaign "Legal Assistance for the Family Members of the Prisoners", she met one inmate namely 'A' who was languishing in Jail since long. There were 21 cases pending against the said inmate wherein he was not represented. On hearing the story of the helpless inmate, Ms. Geetanjali Bali took a quick action with strong determination by filing bail applications on his behalf in the different courts of SAS Nagar and Rajpura whereby he was released on bail in all the cases.
- A case filed by an old helpless Mother against her children who used to maltreat her was entrusted to Ms Geetanjali Bali. In order to save the pious relationship of the mother and the children, she persuaded the parties to resolve the matter amicably. Her endeavours bore fruit and now, the mother is residing happily with her children.
- ➤ She also contributed in creating sensitization regarding the benefits of Lok Adalats and participated in many Lok Adalats.
- ➤ She has actively participated with the DLSA in creating awareness through Mobile Vans. She visited numerous villages and approached the public at large for sensitizing them about the different NALSA Schemes, government schemes and other Legal Service Activities.
- ➤ She participated in the Help Desks/Awareness Desks setup by the said DLSA.
- ➤ She always ensures that the tasks assigned to her gets accomplished on time and in true spirit.
- ➤ She coordinated with the Para Legal Volunteers of District SAS Nagar and remained constantly available in their hour of need.
- The Panel Lawyer played an instrumental role in resolving 3 matrimonial disputes.

Page **35** of **73**

3.5 UTTARAKHAND STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Name of Best PANEL LAWYER: Mr Ramesh Chandra Sharma
DLSA: Udham Singh Nagar

- ➤ Shri Ramesh Chandra Sharma is able to perform a range of work-related activities of free legal aid and advice etc. and is actively involved in the Legal Aid Activities.
- ➤ He is regularly involved in activities/visits/programmes done by the Secretary DLSA, U.S. Nagar.
- ➤ He has represented the needy and eligible persons before the courts of law in 23 cases and was able to dispose off the matters. The Panel Advocate attended the legal aid cases with zeal and vigour and handled all the cases with keen and desire.
- ➤ His relation with the legal aid beneficiaries is very cordial.
- ➤ He is punctual in representing the cases in the courts. Till date, no complaint has been received against him .
- ➤ He has provided legal aid and assistance to the prisoners in 33 Cases which were assigned to him and has given legal advice and counselling in 12 Cases to the UTPs in the Legal Aid Clinic established in the Sub-Jail Haldwani. The said UTPs were fully satisfied with the aid and advice given to them by the Panel Lawyer.
- ➤ During the said period, he visited 9 Legal Aid Clinics established throughout the District. 13 visits were also conducted by him in the Legal Aid Clinic established in Jail. He has also participated in the Legal Awareness Camps organized in Jail.
- ➤ 7 visits of NariNiketan/Observation Homes/Juvenile Homes were also undertaken by him and during his visit, the inmates were benefited through his legal advice and counselling.

- ➤ During the period, he provided legal services at Front Office for 108 days. He has provided legal assistance and advice to 43 persons as a panel lawyer.
- ➤ 4 Legal Awareness and Multi-Purpose Camps were attended by him wherein he interacted with 78 persons and enlightened them about their legal rights & duties including NALSA's Schemes and welfare schemes of the Central/State Govt.
- ➤ He has attended the monthly meetings regularly.
- ➤ He has participated in the legal aid activities actively with fullest zeal and vigour.
- ➤ Till date, no adjournment has been filed by him in any case assigned to him by the DLSA. His behaviour, as a panel lawyer is humble and polite with the litigants, staff and officers. In most of the cases assigned to him by the DLSA, he has rendered Pro-bono services. The said Panel Lawyer has actively participated in different Lok Adalats.
- ➤ He is regular in attending/performing any work assigned to him and completes the assigned work within time with quality performance.
- ➤ The said Panel Advocate attends most of the programmes organized by the DLSA. He attended various programmes as a resource person. He has good management skills.

South Zone Best PANEL LAWYERs

(Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana

4.1 ANDHRA PRADESH STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Sri Cheeli Musalaiah

DLSA: Machilipatnam, Krishna District

- ➤ Sri Cheeli Musalaiah is working as a Panel Lawyer since several years. He has the ability to perform a range of work related activities.
- ➤ He assisted the DLSA in conducting many Literacy Camps, Legal Services Camps during the period. During the awareness camps, he spread awareness amongst the public at large about the availability of free legal services, the activities of the legal services institutions, the objectives of the Legal Services Authorities Act and the beneficial schemes of the Government which are available to the public.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer was entrusted with the task of visiting the areas affected by Fethai Cyclone in December, 2018 and to provide necessary legal assistance by coordinating with the Government Agencies to ensure that necessary relief materials and shelters as may be necessary would be immediately provided to the victims. He left no stone unturned to help the victims of the said natural disaster.
- ➤ He was a Resource Person in the training programmes conducted by DLSA, Krishna.
- ➤ 20 Civil and criminal cases were assigned to him out of which 15 cases were disposed off. 14 cases were disposed off in favour of the litigants whom he was representing

- ➤ He handled all legal aid works with professionalism and responsiveness and is punctual in attending the legal aid cases in courts, updating the clients and the front office.
- ➤ He assisted the DLSA in conducting the recent "Campaign for Legal Assistance to the Family members of the prisoners in Jails" in Krishna District. He interacted with the family members of the prisoners and rendered legal assistance to them.
- ➤ He participated in the live programme on NALSA's New Schemes on Doordarshan.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer was a part of the field team which was entrusted with the work of pre-camp survey for the Legal Services Camp held on 27.07.2019 in Machilipatnam, Krishna District. He visited a village Tallapalem in the said District and conducted the pre-camp survey. In the said camp, he was deputed in the 'Help Desk' to assist the persons and facilitate the people in knowing about the legal services institutions and availability of free legal services, etc. He discharged both the duties effectively.
- ➤ The panel lawyer was assigned a case relating to a Christian couple who had filed a petition for divorce. The panel lawyer then counselled both the parties. The case was settled amicably before the Lok Adalat due to the intervention of the panel lawyer.
- ➤ He discharged every task assigned to him by the DLSA effectively and efficiently.
- ➤ He was a trainer for imparting training to the project resource persons at ICDS Project level and peer group trainers at college level in connection with Kishori Vikasam Phase II. It was a programme by the Department of Women Development and Child Welfare, Andhra Pradesh to empower girls at the school level.

	Training Centre on emerging Laws.
>	He was a member of the committee to provide legal services to Convicts.

4.2 KARNATAKA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Sri. Lakshman Murthy DLSA: BENGALURU URBAN

- ➤ Mr. Lakshman Murthy has been empanelled as a Panel Lawyer with the DLSA since 2015 and a Panel Lawyer of the KSLSA since 2017. He quickly responds to the legal aid work allotted to him.
- ➤ He handled all the matters entrusted to him with full responsibility. He kept poor litigants/accused aware and updated in respect of their particular cases in the Courts and also submit reports to DLSA/KSLSA as and when demanded.
- ➤ Mr. Lakshman Murthy regularly and punctually attends to a range of activities of DLSA and KSLSA. He had given advice and opinions on different legal aspects during various activities organized by the DLSA including Door to Door campaign.
- ➤ He assisted the bench as conciliator in all the Lok Adalats organized by KSLSA and DLSA.
- ➤ He instituted various civil and criminal litigations before different Sessions Courts and the High Court of Karnataka. He also filed PILs before the High Court of Karnataka as a Legal Aid Counsel.
- ➤ He gives a patient listening to the problems of the poor litigants/accused and gives them proper legal advice. He is well versed with the skills of drafting, etc. He is able to create a good impact on the general masses with his knowledge of law and work ethics.
- ➤ He has actively participated in most of the programmes undertaken by DLSA/KSLSA in relation to the availability of the legal services to the needy, promotion of alternative dispute resolution.

- ➤ He was entrusted with 110 Civil and Criminal Cases of which 18 matters were disposed of successfully. In 14 criminal cases, the accused persons therein got acquittal.
- ➤ He was appointed as a resource person to address the orientation programme for police personnel on the topic Domestic Violence and Sexual exploitation of women and children which was organized by Mahila Dakshata Samiti, Bangalore on 22/12/2018.
- ➤ He participated in various capacity building programmes organized by the DLSA.

4.3 KERALA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Ms Kokila Babu

DLSA: THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

- Ms Kokila Babu is a Panel Lawyer working with DLSA Thiruvananthapuram. She provided representation /assistance to 15 helpless women during the period. Due to her effective representation, she was able to provide these helpless women with different reliefs such as interim compensation, protection order, residence order, etc.
- ➤ She was deputed in various capacities to provide appropriate assistance to the needy in the legal aid clinics at the Mental Health Hospital Peroorkada, Asha Bhavan for Men, which is a Govt. run rehabilitation centre for the mentally ill persons in Poojappura, Regional Dowry Prohibition Office, Thiruvananthapuram, etc.
- The strong tidal currents in Kerela damaged many concrete buildings as a result of which many households were destroyed. The disaster continued for a week after which the fishermen community came forward and contacted Ms Kokila Babu who immediately brought the matter to the notice of the Secretary, DLSA. The Chairman and the Secretary of DLSA swung into action and coordinated with the administration. The affected areas were visited by the concerned authorities immediately and interim reliefs were provided to the affected. With the efforts of the Panel Lawyer, the revenue authorities decided to construct a seawall along the coastline and within 48 hours the construction of the said wall commenced.
- An apartment complex was built by the government which housed 174 flood affected families. The selling rights of the owners were withheld and the families were asked to deposit large sums of money as building tax.

During the Door to Door survey, the aforesaid matter was brought to the notice of the Panel Lawyer. The Panel Lawyer after making necessary enquiries submitted a report to the DLSA who then took up the matter with the authorities of the fisheries department and the city corporation of Thiruvananthapuram. With the sincere and timely efforts of the Panel Lawyer, a meeting was held between the stakeholders. As an outcome of the meeting, the corporation council decided to exempt the tax, easing the burden of the families.

- ➤ The Panel Lawyer attended 2 meetings held at different community halls on the occasion of International Women Day which was attended by 158 women.
- ➤ She undertook awareness classes for 28 different women's self-help groups and held legal sensitization programmes including classes based on the POCSO Act, Women and Child Laws, Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, etc.
- ➤ She took a session on the POCSO Act in a training programme on gender based violence for the Government doctors in the district Bhoomika Centre.
- ➤ During the period, she has provided short lectures on various legal aspects in a legal literacy programme run by the All India Radio (Akashvani) Thiruvananthapuram station. The subjects, she talked about in that programme includes availability of free legal services, Anti-ragging laws and statutory measures, various family laws, etc.

4.4 TAMIL NADU STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: L.VIJAYALAKSHMI

DLSA : TIRUVALLUR

- ➤ Ms L. Vijayalakshmi, the Panel Lawyer, actively participated in all kinds of programmes/activities organized by the DLSA. She was nominated as a visiting counsel to attend the Legal Services Clinic, Tiruvallur to hear the grievances of the needy people in the Villages.
- ➤ In Tamil Nadu, Tiruvallur District is one of the District where Child Marriages take place even today. To Abolish Child Marriages, the Panel Lawyer has been closely working by creating awareness and explaining the ill-effects of Child Marriage amongst the illiterate masses in association with the DLSA and the District Social Welfare Department.
- ➤ She is one of the members of the 'ONE STOP CRISIS TEAM' which was formed by the DLSA in collaboration with other government departments. She as a part of the said team is committed to stop the atrocities such as human trafficking, sexual exploitation, child marriages, etc. on women and children in the area. The work done by the Panel Lawyer in this field was duly acknowledged and rewarded by the District Collector.
- ➤ She was nominated twice to attend the Grama Sabha Assembly in order to hear the grievances and spread socio-legal awareness amongst the village people of Kadambathur Block. She forwarded 4 petitions received from them regarding basic amenities (Ration Card, Water Supply, Proper Road, Clean Drinking Water) to the concerned departments for taking necessary actions.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer, as a Counselling Centre Lawyer, helped a road accident victim to get a compensation of Rs. 2,20,000/-.
- > She was nominated to attend Micro Camps by the DLSA, Tiruvallur for

- creating awareness amongst the Unorganized Labours, MGREGS Labours, Disaster Victims, Girl Children, students of schools and colleges, Village People, Tribal People, Colonies, etc.
- ➤ She attended the Awareness Programmes organized for the prisoners of Central Prison I, Central Prison II, Special Central Prison for Women at Puzhal.
- ➤ On the basis of the information received by her from the Social Welfare Department regarding one child marriage, she filed a case on behalf of the DLSA, Tiruvallur for stopping the said marriage at the District. After proper investigation, the Judicial Magistrate passed an order directing to stop the child marriage.
- ➤ She played a key role in settling a family dispute regarding sharing of the ancestral property between the brothers. She held 6 counselling sessions between the parties to settle the above matter amicably.
- ➤ She settled 2 matrimonial disputes by providing proper counselling to both the parties. Due to her meticulous efforts, the families were reunited.
- ➤ Being a Counselling Centre Panel Lawyer, she aided a party in receiving the Provident Fund Amount of Rs. 48,923/- which was pending before Regional Provident Fund Office at Ambattur.

4.5 TELANGANA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Sri M. Lenin Babu

DLSA: NALGONDA

- > Sri M. Lenin Babu, is empanelled with the DLSA, Nalgonda. He has done good work as a Panel Lawyer.
- ➤ He is a member of the dedicated teams constituted for implementation of the NALSA schemes i.e., NALSA (Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation) Scheme, 2015, NALSA (Child Friendly Legal Services to Children and their Protection) Scheme, 2015 and NALSA (Legal Services to the Senior Citizens) Scheme, 2016.
- ➤ He also rendered his services as a Jail visiting advocate and submitted reports regularly.
- He was appointed as a legal aid counsel for representing the poor, needy and accused person before the Sessions Courts, Magisterial Courts, etc. He regularly updated the DLSA office as well as, the litigants about the status of their cases.
- ➤ He handled all the cases with professionalism, responsiveness and was punctual in attending the legal aided cases in the courts and updated the beneficiaries and the front offices. During this period, he was engaged in 10 Legal Aid cases, out of which, 2 Sessions cases were disposed off.
- He rendered the services promptly and encouraged the youth, fellow Panel Advocates and the Para Legal Volunteers to render free services to the needy public and also to give full coordination to the District Legal Services Authority in all their activities.

>	He rendered assistance to the organization in all aspects to goal. He completed all the tasks assigned to him on time and detailed reports to the DLSA for taking necessary steps.	
		Page 48 of 73

Small States/UTs Zone Best PANEL LAWYERs

(Andaman & Nicobar Islands, UT of Chandigarh, UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Delhi, Goa, Lakshadweep, Puducherry)

5.1 ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER:

The name of best PANEL LAWYER has not been recommended by the State Legal Services Authority for the Commendation Ceremony.

5.2 UT OF CHANDIGARH LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Mr. Ishmeet Singh

DLSA: Chandigarh

Activities/Work done :-

➤ Mr. Ishmeet Singh was empaneled as a Panel Lawyer at the DLSA Chandigarh in the month of March, 2019. He was able to get disposed of 4 matters within 6 months.

- ➤ He was deputed as a Retainer Lawyer in the month of May, 2019. He listened to the queries of the people patiently and helped them to get legal aid. He also updated the daily cause lists of the Legal Aid cases pending in the District Court by contacting each Advocate and obtaining the information regarding their daily listed cases.
- ➤ He aided the legal aid seekers by drafting their applications, notices, replies, etc. He also aids persons in need of legal assistance by filing applications for them.
- As a Jail Visiting Counsel, he interacted with the prisoners, listened to their grievances and informed them about their rights under the law as well as, the different judgements of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. He also ensures that no jail inmate is left without being legally represented in the courts.
- ➤ By developing a network with the Para Legal Volunteers, the Panel Lawyer keeps himself informed about the issues of the prisoners and tries to redress them.
- ➤ He is also working as a Remand lawyer since May, 2019 and participates in the remand proceedings. The Panel Lawyer came across

- a case where the accused produced before the court was a juvenile. He moved an application before the court concerned and accordingly, the matter was transferred to the Juvenile Court.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer was informed by the Member Secretary, Chandigarh SLSA about an 85-year-old man who was mentally ill and had locked himself inside the house. The man who lived alone, could not remember as to where he had kept his keys. The Panel Lawyer reached the spot along with the police, rescued the man and got him admitted in the Psychiatric Department, Government Medical College and Hospital, Chandigarh. In another matter, the Panel Lawyer got another mentally challenged old man who was roaming around the Nehru Hospital, admitted in the Government Hospital. The Panel Lawyer is in constant touch with both the men.
- The Panel Lawyer came across another situation where a young lady was beaten mercilessly and was deserted by her husband. Her father also refused to accept her. The Panel Lawyer then shifted her to ONE STOP CENTRE SAKHI and further to Sawera for her rehabilitation.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer also helped 2 mentally ill ladies who were roaming helplessly in the Chandigarh Railway station, get proper treatment. He further helped them to get their rights and entitlements back from the relevant authorities concerned.
- ➤ On the eve of International Literacy Day, he helped 35 poor students having low percentage in class 10th to get admission in various Government Schools.
- ➤ He also participated in a 3 day POCSO campaign organized by the DLSA. He also participated in 10 capacity building programmes / workshops / campaigns which was organized by the DLSA, Chandigarh

- on various socio-legal issues like waste segregation at source and collection drive, tree plantation, 'Run for Vote' an awareness rally for vote, World Suicide Prevention Day rally, etc.
- ➤ He has participated in all the camps organized by the DLSA on important days such as Anti-Tobacco Day, International Day against Child Labour, Senior Citizens Day, etc.
- ➤ He also participated in the National Lok Adalat which was held on 13.07.2019.

5.3 UT OF DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER:

The name of best PANEL LAWYER has not been recommended by the State Legal Services Authority for the Commendation Ceremony.

5.4 DAMAN & DIU LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

BEST PANEL LAWYER:

The name of best PANEL LAWYER has not been recommended by the State Legal Services Authority for the Commendation Ceremony.

5.5 DELHI LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: MS. ZENAB KHAN

DLSA: South East

- ➤ During the period, 40 cases in total were assigned to Ms Zenab Khab, out of which 20 matters were disposed off.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer had referred many matters for Mediation which were amicably settled.
- ➤ Ms. Zenab Khan was involved in several Legal Awareness and Legal Services Programmes. She has the capacity to participate in any programme at a short notice and has a good knowledge about the POCSO Act and the laws related to women.
- ➤ She has taken several pro bono matters and have done her best to provide any kind of assistance to the needy.
- ➤ She also visits the Legal Aid Clinic of the Children Home and interacts with the girls housed there. With her emphatic attitude, she has won the hearts of all the girls in the Children Home and has become more than an elder sister to them. She has worked relentlessly to provide help and assistance to the girls at the Nirmal Chhaya Complex. She also visits the clinics at the CAW Cell, Helpdesk at CFAR NGO, PGDAV College, and other NGOs.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer was instrumental in providing counselling as well as, compensation to many POCSO and rape victims.
- ➤ She played a pivotal role in manning several other helpdesks or legal aid clinics functioning at different places in South-East district.
- ➤ As a resource person, she has spread legal awareness in the Legal Literacy Clubs established in 5-6 schools.

- ➤ She has performed her duties as a Panel Lawyer at the Front Office efficiently by providing legal advice and counselling to the visitors. She has touched almost 2000 persons through her services rendered at the South-East DLSA. She makes herself available to assist the legal aid beneficiaries at all times with all humility and politeness.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer is punctual and attends all the legal aided cases which are assigned to her with professionalism and responsiveness. She has been the quickest to volunteer and always tries to complete her task.
- > She has participated in 7 capacity building programmes.
- ➤ She has been the Resource person in more than 40 programmes.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer helped a rape victim to file an application u/s 156(3) Cr.P.C. before the court concerned. Due to her efforts, an FIR was registered upon directions of the court.
- ➤ In another matter, the Panel Lawyer was assigned the matter to file a petition u/s 125 Cr.P.C. During the pendency of the matter, the Panel Lawyer counselled both the parties. Due to her efforts the matter was amicably settled.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer was assigned a divorce matter in which the statement for first motion was recorded. The couple also had a child who was tormented due to the differences between his parents. The Panel Lawyer took an initiative to counsel the parties involved and convinced them to attend mediation proceedings. The matter was ultimately settled amicably.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer had rendered pro bono services to a rape victim. The offence was reported to be committed in Faridabad. The lawyer helped the victim in getting the FIR registered and the accused arrested.
- ➤ She helped 6 girls at Nirmal Chhaya complex by tracing the whereabouts of their parents and through regular intervention, the custody of the girls were handed over to their parents.

- The Panel Lawyer counselled a POCSO victim and her family who were on the verge of committing suicide due to the trauma faced by them. Due to the solace provided by the lawyer, the victim and her family regained faith in the system and are availing services of DLSA. The lawyer also helped the victim to continue her education and also receive interim compensation under the Victim Compensation Scheme.
- ➤ Through the efforts of the Panel Lawyer, 4 matters were settled at the Mahila Panchayat, Badarpur even before reaching the court.

5.6 GOA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best Panel Lawyer: Adv Peter Fernandes

DLSA: South Goa

Activities/Work Done

Adv. Peter Fernandes is the panel Lawyer since 1996.

- ➤ He has performed his duties well without giving any chance to complain.
- ➤ He is very punctual in attending the legal aided cases and has been performing his part honestly and sincerely.
- ➤ He has very cordial relations with the legal aid seekers for free legal aid and has been very helpful to them.
- ➤ He has participated in the Capacity building programmes of the PLVs.
- ➤ He remained as a resource person during the induction training programmes of the PLVs.

5.7 LAKSHADWEEP LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER:

The name of best PANEL LAWYER has not been recommended by the State Legal Services Authority for the Commendation Ceremony.

5.8 PUDUCHERRY LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Tmt. N.K. Sajana

DLSA: TLSC, Mahe

- Tmt. N.K. Sajna was empanelled as a panel advocate in the year 1999. She is presently working with the TLSC, Mahe as an Additional Duty Counsel.
- She assisted the authority in organizing Legal Aid Camps in the remote areas of Mahe, Pallore, Pandakkal and made the general public aware about the availability of free legal services, different schemes, etc.
- Being the Additional Duty Counsel, TLSC, Mahe she has shown keen interest in conducting Legal Awareness Programmes for the poor and needy. Whenever the Legal Awareness programmes are conducted, the participants and the general public who seek any legal help are being dealt by her with great concern.
- The Panel Lawyer helped one physically challenged man to obtain a driving license for his three wheeler Motor bike. On seeing his condition, the Panel Lawyer herself accompanied the handicapped complainant to the Regional Administrator, Mahe, and explained his problem who then did the needful.
- The Panel Lawyer provided counselling in many matrimonial disputes including divorce and maintenance issues. She remained instrumental in promoting ADR mechanism also.

- She conducted awareness programmes on the topics of anti-drug and anti-ragging amongst the schools and college students. She also conducted the legal literacy cum awareness programmes for parents and children on various topics such as the ill effects of Drug Abuse, child labour, child safety, Free and compulsory education, etc.
- During the Nippa Virus infection outbreak, she along with the team of student volunteers made door to door visits and sensitized around 3,000 people in order to take remedial measures. She distributed the pamphlets which contained information for controlling the infection caused by the said virus.
- She assisted the TLSC in organizing Legal Awareness Programmes / Legal Awareness Camps in almost all the Mahila Samajams in Mahe Regions which benefitted around 1000 people.
- She also assisted the authority in organizing Awareness Camps at Edayil Peedika Gandhi Memorial Arts and Sports Club. The petitions were received and appropriate steps were taken to settle the issues by the Panel Lawyer. Around 2500 people participated in the said Legal Awareness camps.

West Zone Best PANEL LAWYERS

(Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan)

6.1 GUJARAT STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: MO. YUSUF S. SHAIKH

DLSA: PATAN DLSA

- ➤ During the period, Mo Yusuf was allotted 5 cases out of which 3 cases were disposed off by him.
- ➤ He was also deputed as a Retainer Lawyer by the DLSA.
- ➤ He was allotted 27 cases for Mediation, out of which 6 cases were successfully settled.
- ➤ He was appointed as a coordinator for the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Child Rehabilitation. Being the Coordinator, he is providing services to the Legal Institutions for the benefits of the children at large.
- ➤ Being a member of a committee 'Planning for economic upliftment and resettlement of women living in adverse conditions (Sex Worker Women), he provided his best services for the women living under adverse conditions.
- ➤ Under the NALSA (Legal Services to the Workers in the Unorganized Sector) Scheme, 2015, he was deputed as a panel lawyer to work in coordination with the NGO (Bhagini Samaj).
- ➤ He enthusiastically participated and delivered lectures in the awareness camps/legal awareness programmes, whenever he was asked to by the DLSA.
- As a mediator, he has helped both the parties settle their disputes including the matters which are at pre-litigative stage.

➤ He renders his service with utmost professionalism and responsiveness. He	
is punctual in attending the legal aided cases and contributed significantly	
in the achievement of the organizational goals.	
➤ He endeavours to complete the assigned work as soon as possible and is	
actively involved in the capacity building programmes.	

6.2 MADHYA PRADESH STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Mr Sheikh Manjoor

DLSA: Jabal Pur

- > During the reported period, 34 cases were assigned to Mr. Sheikh Manjoor.
- ➤ In the Lok Adalat held on 13.07.2019, he assisted the bench in settling a matter through mediation.
- ➤ He imparted training to the Para Legal Volunteers in a Legal Literacy Camp organized by the DLSA.
- ➤ The Panel Advocate was deputed at the One Stop Centre wherein he provided his services as a mediator. He also spread awareness amongst the women about availability of free legal services, the provisions of the Women Security Act.
- ➤ Legal aid was provided to the mentally sick people through the DLSA by the panel advocate.
- ➤ He participated in various Lok Adalats organized by the DLSA during the aforesaid period.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer also aided one family to get compensation through the DLSA under the Crime Victims Compensation Scheme, 2015.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer also connected the old aged people with the Senior Citizens Scheme, 2016.
- ➤ He has provided legal advice in the legal services camps like camps for the disabled persons, camps for cleanliness, removal of evils spread in the society and for empowerment of women, etc.

6.3 MAHARASHTRA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Mr. Yashpal Dattaprasad Purohit

DLSA: Pune

- ➤ Mr. Yashpal Dattaprasad has been a panel member since the last 3 years with Pune DLSA and is appearing in court matters, remand work and filing bail applications, drafting of appeals, miscellaneous applications etc. During the period, he also appeared in the designated POCSO Court.
- ➤ Mr.Purohit was very punctual. He regularly updated his clients as well as, the DLSA Pune, about the stage of the cases. In case of an UTP, the Panel Lawyer visits the prison and updates him/her about the proceedings of the case.
- ➤ Mr. Purohit has been a part of a project wherein he is collecting information relating to the POCSO as per the instructions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.
- ➤ Mr.Purohit has so far performed excellently in works assigned to him by the office. Mr.Purohit is well versed with the provisions of law and regularly shares the amendments as well as, case-laws with the office and other panel advocates.
- ➤ Mr.Purohit regularly attends the remand in the capacity of remand advocate not only on workings days but, also on holidays.
- ➤ Mr. Purohit has personally helped many families of the accused in different ways like paying the school fees of the children and made efforts to rehabilitate the accused after his release.
- ➤ He delivered lectures at various schools, colleges and government organizations about the various aspects of law related to teasing,

- stalking, harassment at work place and explained them about the procedure of filing complaints before the appropriate authorities.
- ➤ Being a Jail Visiting Advocate at the Central prison, Pune, he interacts with the inmates, files applications and petitions on their behalf and keeps track of their cases.
- During his visit to the Central Prison, Pune, he came across one inmate who was behind the bars even after 11 months of his acquittal. Mr.Purohit immediately took all the details and with the help of the Secretary, DLSA, contacted the concerned court in Ahmednagar District and got all the procedures completed within a day and get the accused released from the jail.
- ➤ He helped a minor rape survivor who was 25 weeks pregnant in undergoing abortion procedure at the Sasson General Hospital by obtaining permission from the High Court. He was present throughout the night in order to ensure that the order of the High Court was followed.
- ➤ Mr.Purohit was also a part of the Sahayog Project which helped many inmates in filing the Appeals in the Apex Court.
- ➤ In one instance, one accused was unable to get released from the jail as his release order was not submitted to the jail authorities by the earlier advocate due to some financial issues. Mr. Purohit then helped the family members of the accused to secure new release order from the Court and ensured his release from the jail.
- ➤ Mr. Purohit encourages the newest members of the bar to be a legal aid panel member by explaining to them the responsibility of an Advocate towards the society.
- ➤ Mr. Purohit has trained the new panel Advocates in conducting trials before the various courts.

- ➤ Mr. Purohit has appeared in more than 140 remands and in a span of 12 months he has successfully conducted session trials in more than 40 cases to help reach the Courts to its final conclusion. Mr. Purohit has drafted and argued in more than 70 bail applications.
- ➤ His work has been applauded by several newspapers like the Times of India, Pune Mirror, etc. which in a way have helped the people understand the true concept of Legal Aid.

6.4 RAJASTHAN STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Ms. Shalini Sheoran DLSA: Rajasthan HCLSC

- ➤ Ms. Shalini Sheoran is in the panel of Rajasthan HCLSC, Jaipur. She is also a Retainer Advocate of Rajasthan High Court.
- ➤ She provided legal advice to the people who visited the Legal aid clinic of RHC. In order to provide quality legal services to the parties, she heard them patiently and gave advice and guidance to the parties accordingly.
- ➤ She tried to mediate between couples in case matrimonial disputes.
- ➤ She updated the legal aid beneficiaries about the status of their respective cases through mail, phone, WhatsApp, sms etc.
- ➤ She worked every day in the Front Office of the RHCLCS namely "NYAYA RO SARTHI" and provided advice and assistance in the form of drafting applications, notices, written statements, etc., to all litigants / legal aid beneficiaries who visited the office. She also assisted the Monitoring & Mentoring Committees of the RHCLSC and RSLSA in its functioning.
- ➤ She represented one Yemen National, in a criminal matter as a pro-bono lawyer. His bail application was rejected by the Trial Court. Ms Shalini Sheoran filed his bail application before the High Court and succeeded in obtaining bail for him.
- ➤ Ms Shalini also filed two Criminal Writ Petitions before the High Court of Rajasthan on behalf of 2 other foreign nationals. In both the cases she represented them as a pro-Bono lawyer.
- ➤ In another matter, an order dated 06.04.2017 was issued by the authority concerned debarring a Yemen national from attending his classes in the

institute. The boy approached the RSLSA and accordingly, the matter was assigned to the Panel Lawyer. Thereafter, a petition was filed by the lawyer on his behalf and accordingly, as per the direction of the High Court he was allowed to appear in the examinations.

- ➤ She coordinated with the other Departments and helped 4 foreign nationals/students to make a legal exit from India.
- ➤ The Panel Lawyer filed two PILs before the High Court, one for providing 4% reservation to specially abled persons and 1% reservation to the persons suffering autism disorder in all the future vacancies as per the Act of 2016 and another for framing the policy for AIDS victims.
- ➤ One Akshay Bhatnagar was a student suffering from autism who was not allowed to appear in various competition / recruitment exams. Due to the efforts put by Ms Shalini Sheoran, by filing appropriate writ petitions, the concerned High Court granted permissions to Akshay Bhatnagar to appear in the examinations including the relaxation required under the PwD Act, 2016 as well as norms and guidelines issued from time to time by the Government of India.
- ➤ During the reported period, she filed 10 writ petitions challenging the orders/awards passed by various courts/tribunals.
- ➤ Besides the above, she also filed 3 Criminal Petitions, 2 Criminal Revisions and 1 Criminal Appeal before the High Court.
- ➤ She was deputed as a resource person in 8 workshop/literacy classes/awareness classes for spreading awareness/sensitizing the people on the topics such as Cyber Laws, Sexual Harassment at Workplace, Women Rights to staff of ONGS, Intellectual Property Rights at Biyani College etc.
- The Panel Lawyer was assigned a matter wherein an old person complained about the wrong procedure adopted by the Doctors. The matter was taken up in pre litigation and short notice was issued which

- was given dasti. The Doctors were called and Rs. 10,000/- were given to the petitioner as compensation.
- ➤ She attended the debates / conferences conducted by ETV, Zee TV, Dainik Bhaskar, ONGC, IOCL etc. and raised the issues relating to women empowerment, child education, child sex etc.
- ➤ She completed the tasks assigned to her on time.
- > She also participated in the capacity building programmes organised by the DLSA.



NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

12/11, Jam Nagar House, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi-110011 Ph.: 011-23382778, 23382121, Website: www.nalsa.gov.in