Inside:

DLSA, Mewat adjudged as best in North Zone
Implementation of NALSA Schemes
Awareness through Legal Literacy Vehicles
Training of Panel Lawyers
National Lok Adalat
Article on Mediators for Rural Haryana
Patron-in-Chief
Hon’ble Mr. Justice Shiavax Jal Vazifdar
Chief Justice,
High Court of Punjab & Haryana

Executive Chairman
Hon’ble Mr. Justice Ajay Kumar Mittal
Judge,
High Court of Punjab & Haryana

Editorial Board

Member Secretary
Vikram Aggarwal
District & Sessions Judge

Joint Member Secretary
Sunil Chauhan
Chief Judicial Magistrate
The National Legal Services Authority held commendation ceremony on the occasion of National Legal Services Day on November 9, 2016. District Legal Services Authority, Mewat was adjudged the best performing DLSA in the North Zone category. District Legal Services Authority, Mewat implemented legal aid programmes and various Schemes and Regulations of NALSA, under the guidance of Haryana State Legal Services Authority.

Mewat district is the least developed district of Haryana particularly in terms of standard of living, education and health indices. Poor literacy rate and poverty are the main issues of Mewat. Majority of people are not aware about the welfare schemes. DLSA, Mewat identified the problems of Mewat and worked upon it. A host of innovative methods were adopted to implement the legal aid programmes. The efforts put in by District Legal Services Authority, Mewat brought appreciable and visible changes in Mewat.

A massive drive for creating awareness amongst labour class about various welfare schemes was undertaken by DLSA, Mewat. A total of 112 villages were covered in the
campaign for spreading awareness about welfare schemes relating to workers in unorganized sector. Due to its efforts more than 2000 workers were registered under the welfare schemes.

It carried out a campaign to connect children with the foster care welfare scheme. Due to its rigorous efforts as many as 59 children working as child labour were rescued. Villagers were also motivated to send their children to Schools. A survey conducted by it also revealed the poor education scenario in district Mewat. It prepared a report wherein it suggested short term and long term solutions. The said report has been submitted to the Department of Education for necessary action. DLSA, Mewat helped people to get connected with various welfare schemes including pension, crop insurance etc. For the first time, a platform was provided to the victims of trafficking. They voiced their concerns in the Conclave held by District Legal Services Authority, Mewat. Various camps were held to sensitize students of Schools and Colleges about Fundamental Duties envisaged in the Constitution of India. A special campaign was carried out for the farmers. They were sensitized and motivated to adopt new techniques of agriculture. They were made aware about Soil Health Cards and Fasal Bima Yojnas. Five Kisans Pathshallas were organized and twenty community meetings were held for them.

"Bal Sansads" were organized for children so as to provide them a platform to voice their concern about the problems of eve teasing, stalking, transportation etc. In these Bal Sansads, children also suggested the solutions regarding the various social-legal issues. In this manner, they got sensitized on the various social-legal issues.

District Legal Services Authority, Mewat spread awareness about different laws and welfare schemes of the Government in the villages of District Mewat. Particularly, camps were organized for workers in the unorganized sector, women, children, senior citizens etc. Awareness was also spread through community radios. Rallies were carried out to make people aware about the ill effects of drug abuse.

NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY LAUNCHED NEW SCHEMES

The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 has created Legal Services Institutions at the National, State, District and Taluk Levels to provide Legal Services to the marginalized sections of the society in order to ensure that they are able to avail their rights and entitlements. Apart from providing court related services, the Legal Services Institutions are also mandated to undertake awareness programmes and preventive and strategic legal aid programmes. National Legal Services Authority, being the Central Authority, is required to frame effective and meaningful schemes for making Legal Services accessible under the Act.

Bearing in mind the existing gaps between the declared rights and the intended beneficiaries and the ability of the Legal Services Institutions to act as a bridge between them through a nationwide network of
Panel Lawyers and Para Legal Volunteers, National Legal Services Authority on 9.11.2016 launched the following new schemes, to be implemented by the Legal Services Institutions at all levels:

1. **NALSA (Legal Services to Senior Citizens) Scheme, 2015.**
2. **NALSA (Legal Services to Victims of Acid Attacks) Scheme, 2015.**

**NALSA (LEGAL SERVICES TO SENIOR CITIZENS) SCHEME, 2015.**

**OBJECTIVES OF THE SCHEME**

The main objectives of the Scheme are as follows:-

1. To outline the basic rights and benefits that should be accorded to senior citizens;
2. To strengthen legal aid representation at the national, state, district and taluka levels for senior citizens who are entitled under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 in availing the benefits of the various legal provisions which exist;
3. To ensure access to various Governmental Schemes and programmes to the senior citizens;
4. To ensure that the authorities and institutions such as the Tribunals and the Appellate Tribunals under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, old age homes for senior citizens have been established;
5. To create and spread awareness about the rights and entitlements of the senior citizens under the various laws and Governmental Schemes and programmes through the District Legal Services Authorities, Taluka Legal Services Committees, panel lawyers, para-legal volunteers, students and legal services clinics;
6. To enhance capacities at all levels of panel lawyers, para-legal volunteers, volunteers in legal services clinics, government officers tasked with the implementation of the various schemes, service providers, police personnel, non-governmental organizations by organizing training, orientation and sensitization programmes; and
7. To undertake research and documentation to study the various schemes, laws etc. to find out the gaps, the needs and to make suggestions to the appropriate authorities. The ultimate objective of the Scheme is to ensure that the senior citizens live a life of dignity and enjoy all the benefits and facilities which are due to them.

**NALSA (LEGAL SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF ACID ATTACKS) SCHEME, 2015**

**OBJECTIVES OF THE SCHEME**

The main objectives of the Scheme are as follows:

1) To strengthen legal aid and representation at the national, state, district and taluka levels for victims of acid attacks in availing the benefits of the various legal provisions and schemes for compensation which exist;
2) To enable the victims of acid attacks to get access to medical facilities and rehabilitative services;
3) To create and spread awareness about the entitlements of the victims of acid attacks through the District Legal Servicers Authorities, Taluka Legal Services committees, panel lawyers, para-legal volunteers and legal services clinics;
4) To enhance capacities at all levels of panel lawyers, para-legal volunteers, volunteers in legal services clinics, government officers tasked with the implementation of the various schemes, service providers, police personnel, non-governmental organizations by organizing training, orientation and sensitization programmes; and
5) To undertake research and documentation to study the various schemes, laws etc. to find out the gaps, the needs and to make suggestions to the appropriate authorities.
LEGAL LITERACY CAMPS ON
SENIOR CITIZENS DAY

On 01.10.2016, to mark the Senior Citizens Day, legal literacy camps were organised by the District Legal Services Authorities, under the aegis of Haryana State Legal Services Authority, across the State of Haryana. Legal awareness camps were also organised in the Old Age Homes and Senior Citizen Clubs to spread awareness about the various laws which have been enacted for the protection and welfare of Senior Citizens. Various provisions of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 were explained in a comprehensible language. The Haryana State Legal Services Authority has published a booklet on the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007. Copies of the said booklet were also distributed amongst the senior citizens.

A senior citizen including parent who is unable to maintain himself from his own earning or out of the property owned by him, is entitled to get relief under this Act. If children or relative is not maintaining his parents or senior citizen respectively, then the parents/senior citizen can seek the assistance of Tribunal constituted under this Act, to enforce the remedy of maintenance. Such parents/senior citizen can file an application before the Tribunal, claiming maintenance and other reliefs from their children/relatives as the case may be. Such application for maintenance can be filed by the senior citizen or a parent himself, or if such person is incapable, then by any other person or any registered organisation authorised by him. The Tribunal can also suo motu take cognizance of the case. Children includes son, daughter, grandson and grand-daughter but does not include a minor. Relative means any legal heir of the childless senior citizen who is not a minor and is in possession of or would inherit his property after his death.
SPECIAL LEGAL LITERACY CAMPS ON MAHATMA GANDHI JAYANTI

On 2-10-2016, the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti, legal awareness camps were held in all the districts of Haryana by District Legal Services Authorities, under the aegis of Haryana State Legal Services Authority, to spread awareness about social-welfare legislations. In the said camps, various welfare schemes, being implemented in the state of Haryana, for the poor were also explained in a comprehensible language.
Many people with mental health conditions around the world are deprived of their human rights. World Mental Health Day is observed on 10th October every year. On 10.10.2016, legal literacy camps were organised across the State of Haryana by the District Legal Services Authorities under the aegis of Haryana State Legal Services Authority. Lectures were given to create awareness about the various laws providing benefit to the mentally ill persons. Chief Judicial Magistrates-cum-Secretaries, posted in District Legal Services Authorities, visited the places where mentally ill persons are kept for treatment.
LEGAL LITERACY CAMPS FOR OFFICIALS
AT GRASS-ROOT LEVEL

The Legal Literacy Camps for the officials working at grass-root level are organized with an objective to apprise officials about the concept of legal services and to impress upon them the need to work for the weaker and marginalized sections of the society. On 15.10.2016 and 29.10.2016, such camps were organized by District Legal Services Authorities, Sirsa and Sonepat respectively.

Sonepat

---

LEGAL LITERACY CAMPS
ON THE OCCASION OF CHILDREN DAY

On 14.11.2016, the occasion of Children Day, legal literacy camps were organised across the State of Haryana by District Legal Services Authorities under the aegis of Haryana State Legal Services Authority. In the said camps, awareness was spread about the various laws meant for the protection and welfare of children such as the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act etc.
A democratic polity can never succeed where the citizens are not willing to be active participants in the process of governance by assuming responsibilities and discharging citizenship duties and coming forward to give their best. Article 51 (A) of the Constitution of India spells out the various Fundamental Duties of every citizen of India. It is important to discharge the Fundamental Duties. With an objective to spread awareness about the need to discharge the Fundamental Duties for the growth of our country, District Legal Services Authorities, under the aegis of Haryana State Legal Service Authority, hold awareness camps. In the months of October and November, 2016 also several camps were held across the State of Haryana to spread awareness about the Fundamental Duties. The copies of the booklet on Fundamental Duties were also distributed amongst the students.

AWARENESS THROUGH COMMUNITY RADIO

Haryana State Legal Services Authority is spreading legal awareness through community radio. In the months of October and November, 2016 various legal awareness programmes were conducted through community radio stations. In the said programmes, various legal topics were covered such as Protection of women from Domestic Violence Act, law on bail, free legal aid, victim compensation scheme etc.
LEGAL LITERACY CAMP AT
MANSA DEVI NAVRATRA MELA/FAIR

District Legal Services Authority, Panchkula organized legal awareness camp from 1.10.2016 to 9.10.2016 at Mansa Devi Navratri Mela/Fair. It was organized as during the Navratri Mela lakhs of people visit Mansa Devi Temple. This, hence, provides an opportunity to spread legal awareness at mass level. Banners reflecting the various beneficial provisions under different enactments were displayed. Pamphlets and booklets published by Haryana State Legal Services Authority were also distributed amongst the masses to spread legal awareness. Panel lawyers and Para Legal Volunteers were deputed in the said legal awareness camp to impart legal services to the visitors. Hon’ble Mr. Justice Ajay Kumar Mittal, Judge, High Court of Punjab & Haryana and Executive Chairman, Haryana State Legal Services Authority, Panchkula alongwith Sh. Vikram Aggarwal, District & Sessions Judge-cum-Member Secretary also visited the legal awareness stall at the said Mela.
NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES DAY OBSERVED

9th November, 2016 was celebrated as National legal services day with full vigour and charm in the entire State of Haryana. Various legal literacy camps and programmes in schools and colleges were organized by the District Legal Services Authorities under the aegis of Haryana State Legal Services Authority.

Through these seminars, students were made aware of their legal rights and duties, and the common people, residing in villages, were also enlightened about their rights and duties and the various schemes formulated for their benefit by the Government.

Various activities like slogan writing, on the spot painting, poem recitation, declamation, essay writings etc. were organized in many Districts in schools and colleges on various socio-legal topics. The students participated with full enthusiasm in the said competitions.
CHILDREN HOMES, SHELTER HOMES & OBSERVATION HOMES

Children and senior citizens are vulnerable. Children are voiceless and defenseless. Nurturing children in an environment free from exploitation and fear is very important. Children in Children Homes, Shelter Homes and Observation Homes form the most vulnerable section. Similarly, Senior Citizens, living in the Old Age Homes, also form the vulnerable section who apart from legal protection also require the motivation to live happily and fearlessly. To ensure proper legal protection to this vulnerable section, the Chairmen cum District and Sessions Judges along with Chief Judicial Magistrates cum Secretaries have been making visits regularly every month to Children Homes, Shelter Homes, Observation Homes and Old age homes across the State of Haryana under the instructions and guidance of the Haryana Legal Services Authority. Deficiencies are taken up with the concerned authorities. Legal aid is also provided in appropriate cases.
MONTHLY WORKSHOPS FOR PANEL ADVOCATES AND PARA LEGAL VOLUNTEERS

To ensure that panel Advocates render quality legal services, workshops for the panel lawyers are held by the District Legal Services Authorities in the State of Haryana every month. In the said workshops, it is emphasized that it is quite important to render quality legal services to marginalized section of society and that there is a need to combine up-to-date legal knowledge and skills with good client care to deliver services in a way that is useful. In the workshops, latest position of law and different aspects of legal services are discussed. In the months of October and November, 2016, various workshops were held for the panel lawyers by DLSAs under the aegis of Haryana State Legal Services Authority across the State of Haryana.
AWARENESS CAMPS AT VILLAGES

District Legal Services Authorities, Jhajjar, Panipat and Kaithal organized various legal awareness camps in the months of October and November, 2016 in villages. The idea behind organizing camps at villages was to reach out to the people living in the remotest area and make them aware about the functions of the Legal Services Authorities. The villagers were explained in detail the concept of legal aid. This apart, the rights under various laws were explained in a comprehensible language to the villagers.
AWARENESS THROUGH LEGAL LITERACY VEHICLES

In the months of October and November, 2016, legal awareness camps were held through two legal literacy vehicles in the districts of Yamuna Nagar, Faridabad, Palwal and Kurukshetra. Remote villages were covered during the said awareness campaign. People were apprised of the various important laws. Their rights under various laws were explained to them. The concept of free legal aid was also explained to them during the said campaign.
TWO DAYS MASS
DOOR TO DOOR CAMPAIGN

Under the directions of National Legal Services Authority, two days door to
doctor campaign was organized across the State of Haryana. The aim of this
campaign was to reach out to maximum people and make them aware of
the following:

a). Legal Services Institutions and availability of Legal Services.

b). Legal Services that can be availed.

c). How legal services can facilitate the people to get their entitlements
under various laws and schemes of the Governments.

Many camps were also organized under this campaign. Para Legal
Volunteers were deputed to cover maximum households during door to
doctor campaign.
OBSERVANCE OF CONSTITUTION DAY

Constitution Day is celebrated in India on 26th November every year to commemorate the adoption of Constitution of India. On the said occasion, District Legal Services Authorities, under the aegis of Haryana State Legal Services Authority organized Legal Awareness Camps across the state of Haryana. These camps were organized with an objective to make people aware about the Constitution of India. In the said camps, various important aspects of the Constitution of India were explained to the people. People were also made aware about Fundamental Rights and Fundamental Duties envisaged in the Constitution of India.

LEGAL LITERACY CAMP AT KAPAL MOCHAN MELA

Kapal Mochan Mela is held annually at District Yamunanagar. People in large numbers visit the said Mela. The same provides an opportunity to spread legal awareness at mass level. Hence, District Legal Services Authority, Yamunanagar set up a legal literacy stall at the said Mela from 11.11.2016 to 14.11.2016. Around 3500 persons visited the stall. They were not only advised with regard to their legal problems by panel advocates but were also made aware about the various functions of the Legal Services Authorities. Booklets and pamphlets relating to various important laws were also distributed amongst the public for spreading awareness.
AWARENESS ABOUT FOOD ADULTERATION AND CONSUMER RIGHTS

On 27.10.2016, District Legal Services Authority, Panipat organized an awareness programme in Government Secondary School Madauda, Panipat. It was organized in association with Consumer Rights Organization. It was attended by teachers, students and villagers. They were informed about the various aspects of Food Adulteration and Rights of a consumer. A rally aimed at preventing Food Adulteration was also organized. People from all sections of society participated in the rally.

AWARENESS CAMPAIGN TO END FEMALE FOETICIDE

District Legal Services Authority, Panipat, in association with Human Rights Organization/NGO namely “Breakthrough”, launched the campaign to end female foeticide from 25.10.2016 to 20.11.2016 in District Panipat. The said campaign was aimed to eliminate female foeticide. The campaign was given the name “Mission Hazzar”. The aim was to make people aware of the need to aim at one thousand females per thousand males. Under this campaign, various places within the District Panipat were covered. People were made aware about the need to curb and put an end to the menace of female foeticide. About 36 schools were also covered under the said campaign.
Haryana State Legal Services Authority has been implementing NALSA (Effective Implementation of Poverty Alleviation Schemes) Scheme, 2015. In the month of October, 2016, a special campaign was held for the implementation of the said scheme in District Mewat, one of the most backward districts of Haryana. People were made aware of the various welfare schemes of the Government. Efforts were made to connect eligible persons with the welfare schemes. During this campaign, on 21.10.2016, an Awareness Camp-cum-Registration of intended beneficiaries was organized in village Hasanpur, Mewat. Different departments of Government coordinated. 836 registrations were done on the said day. Pension forms of 72 persons were filled. 42 registration forms of labourers were also filled. It benefitted many people.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE SCHEME**

The main objectives of the Scheme are as follows:

1. To ensure access to basic rights and benefits afforded to socially or economically weaker sections of society.
2. To strengthen legal aid and support services at the national, state, district and Taluka levels for persons belonging to socially or economically weaker sections in accessing Poverty Alleviation Schemes.
3. To spread awareness about the Poverty Alleviation Schemes through the members of the District Authority, Taluka-Legal Services Authority, panel of lawyers, social workers, para-legal volunteers, and students in legal aid clinics;

4. To create a database of all the existing central or state schemes, policies, regulations, policy directives, conventions, rules, and reports available concerning Poverty Alleviation Schemes along with the latest funding information on these schemes;

5. To undertake and organize training and orientation programmes, for panel lawyers, para-legal volunteers, officers under Poverty Alleviation Schemes, student volunteers in legal aid clinics for their skill enhancement and for developing a sense of deeper engagement amongst them for implementing this scheme; and

6. To develop effective coordination and interface with all government bodies to functionaries, institutions, authorities, NGOs and other organizations concerning or entrusted with the responsibility relating to welfare of socially/economically weaker sections of the society.

IMPLEMENTATION OF NALSA
(VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING AND COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION)
SCHEME, 2015

Haryana State Legal Services Authority is implementing NALSA (Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation) Scheme, 2015 in the State of Haryana. In the month of November, 2016, a special campaign was held for the implementation of the said scheme in District Palwal. People were exhorted to end the menace of women trafficking. Awareness camps were organized at different locations in district Palwal. Law regarding trafficking was also explained to the participants. They were motivated to stay aware and report about any instance of trafficking happening in their surroundings. They were given the legal aid helpline number.
AWARENESS CAMP FOR STUDENTS

On 04.11.2016, District Legal Services Authority, Kaithal organized a special Legal Literacy and Awareness Camp at OSDAV Public School, Kaithal. In the said camp, about 200 students took part. The students were apprised about the concept of Legal Services to Weaker and Marginalized Sections of society. They were informed about Permanent Lok Adalat (Public Utility Services). They were made aware about the legal aid helpline number. Interactive session also took place. Students asked various questions regarding rights of children and other different aspects. Their questions were answered by the Chief Judicial Magistrate-cum-Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Kaithal.

MONTHLY NATIONAL LOK ADALAT

On 8.10.2016, a monthly National Lok Adalat on traffic, petty matters and municipal matters was held across the State of Haryana. Pre-Lok Adalats were also held to identify suitable cases for settlement in the Lok Adalat. In the said Lok Adalat, 3,726 cases were settled. Pre-litigation cases as well as pending cases were settled involving an amount of Rs. 47,42,946/-. 
NATIONAL LOK ADALAT

Under the aegis of National Legal Services Authority, New Delhi, a National Lok Adalat for all the matters was held on 12.11.2016 across the State of Haryana. Pre-Lok Adalats were also held to identify suitable cases for settlement in the Lok Adalat. In the said National Lok Adalat, 2,91,657 cases were settled. Pre-litigation cases as well as pending cases were settled involving an amount of Rs. 1,59,14,77,917/-. 
AWARENESS PROGRAMME FOR LAW STUDENTS

On 04.11.2016, District Legal Services Authority, Gurugram organized a seminar at the Faculty of Law, SGT University, Gurugram. The said seminar was attended by about 200 persons. Audience included faculty members and students. The gathering was explained about the important provisions of Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

Audience was apprised of the various functions and activities being done by Legal Services Authorities. Audience was also apprised about the objective of Access to Justice for All. Various facets of Access to Justice were discussed. Apart this, a presentation regarding “Sexual Harassment of Women at workplace” was given to the students by Dr. Surbhi Dhirgara.

LEGAL AWARENESS AT HOSPITAL

On 09.11.2016, District Legal Services Authority, Gurugram organized a Camp at Medanta “Medicity” Hospital, Gurugram. The objective behind holding the camp was to apprise Doctors, nurses and other staff members about the structure of Legal Services Authorities and Legal Aid Programmes and also to make them aware about Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. Shri Abhishek Phutela, Chief Judicial Magistrate-cum-Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Gurugram apprised the gathering about the functioning of Legal Services Authorities and related aspects. Ms. Surbhi Dhingra apprised the gathering and discussed law relating to sexual harassment of women at workplace. Various facets of the law were discussed. Interactive session was also held.
To empower women and make poor aware about rights and the benefits of various welfare schemes of the Government, District Legal Services Authority, Mewat organized a camp at Village Adber near Nuh. It was organized in collaboration with Sehgal Foundation (NGO). It was attended by around 1570 persons. Out of them, about 650 were females. Gathering was made aware of the various welfare schemes and policies to tackle the poverty. They were also apprised about the Legal Services Authorities and its various functions. Various Departments of Government were requested to put up their stalls at the said camp so that the gathering could take benefit of the various welfare schemes. Various Departments such as Labour Department, Social Welfare Department, Child Care & Protection Department etc. set up their stalls at the said camp. 700 forms related to labour schemes were filled up for registration as registration is the requisite for reaping benefits under various welfare schemes of the Labour Department. 100 forms of Old Age Pension Scheme and other schemes were filled up. The said camp was a huge success. It not only made people aware of the welfare schemes but also connected them to the various welfare schemes.

Mediators for Rural Haryana:
Workshops to Develop Best Practices

by Prof. Jane Schukoske’ and Navneet Narwal*

The Constitution of India mandates the judiciary to act as the guardian in protecting the fundamental rights of the people. In addition to the formal legal system (courts of law), India enacted the Legal Services Authorities Act in 1987 to provide free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities. Under this Act, each of India’s 29 states and seven union territories has a separate State Legal Services Authority (SLSA) and each district has a District Legal Services Authority (DLSA). In addition to providing advice and court representation for eligible individuals, the DLSA is required to organize legal literacy camps for the community, and to host Lok Adalat (“people’s court”) and run mediation centers to provide alternative dispute resolution (ADR).

The processes of ADR, including arbitration, conciliation, lok adalat, mediation, and judicial settlement, are crucial in India as they have the potential to secure speedy and inexpensive justice, unlike the formal legal system, which is often slow and costly. A popular mechanism of ADR is mediation, which
can be defined as a structured process of dispute resolution wherein a neutral person (mediator) trained in
the process works with the parties of the dispute to bring them to a mutually acceptable agreement. A
mediator is only a facilitator who neither decides the dispute nor gives an award.

Mediation is a completely voluntary process; parties participate at their own will and can opt out at
any time. The process helps parties focus on reaching a mutual agreement with long-term gains and a
win-win result that benefits all involved. Hence, it is particularly effective and recommended in disputes
related to property, partition, marriage, custody of children, commerce, labour, banking, insurance, and
consumer transactions. Mediation is not recommended when allegations are falacious and/or there is a
serious imbalance between the positions of parties and fair negotiation is not possible.

To function well, a mediation centre requires community awareness, infrastructure, regular
training of mediators, appropriate case referral by judges, and case management systems. Villagers
should be regularly made aware about the benefits of mediation so that they can develop confidence in
the process and the desire to solve their disputes through it, even before litigation. Mediators for villagers
in rural Haryana require knowledge of local context and insight into the power imbalances in the
community that may interfere with the dispute resolution process. They should be well equipped with skills
in conflict resolution and negotiation. The mediator faces a unique challenge when a rural party may feel
pressured by the opposing party to settle on unfair terms. This article examines this situation and proposes
workshops for mediators to devise best practices to employ.

The Haryana State Legal Services Authority (HSLSA) publication on Alternate Dispute Resolution
contains the Mediation Rules 2015\(^1\) including two that focus on the roles of the mediator and of the parties:

**Rule 16:** Role of Mediator. The mediators shall attempt to facilitate voluntary resolution of the dispute(s) by the parties. He shall assist them in understanding the problems, identifying underlying issues, reducing misunderstandings, generating the options and developing option [sic] which are mutually acceptable to both the parties.

**Rule 17:** Parties alone responsible for taking decision. The parties shall be made to understand that the mediator only facilitates in arriving at a decision to resolve dispute(s) and that he will not and cannot impose any settlement nor does the mediator give any assurance that the mediation will result in a settlement. The mediator shall not impose any decision on the parties.

Several situations illustrate the point that mediators must carefully assess understanding and
voluntariness in the rural context. Power dynamics within a village or district may place a rural individual at
a disadvantage in mediation of a dispute. In this situation, a party may feel compelled to accept an
unfavorable resolution. Factors such as caste, religion, age, gender, language, and other cultural
differences may interfere with the mediation process, and the mediator should be alert to the need to check
on the parties' understanding. In family disputes where there has been domestic violence or divorce issues,
the mediator must be aware that there may be danger to a woman, elder, or child, and a threat of violence
may interfere with reaching an acceptable voluntary resolution.

A good mediator encourages parties to focus on their long-term interests, brings out underlying
issues, and takes the parties out of deadlock if such a situation arises. The mediator helps parties identify
key concepts and steps, and organize key information. A mediator must communicate in a way that is
clear, user-friendly, and practical. Use of formats such as bullet points, diagrams, and pictures may be
helpful.

Chapter VI of the Mediation Training Manual of India\(^2\) describes the stages of mediation and
suggests types of questions that may be used to clarify each party's concerns and possible outcomes. In
separate sessions with each party, there is "reality testing" to predict probable success at trial. The mediator
assists each party in envisioning the best alternative to a negotiated agreement (BATNA), the worst
alternative (WATNA), and the most likely alternative (MLATNA)\(^3\).

---

Special care is needed in the mediation process with parties who have little familiarity with ADR and court proceedings. Rural litigants may be disoriented or afraid. In view of power dynamics that often work to the disadvantage of the rural poor, it may be difficult to build trust among parties to candidly share information during the mediation process. Confidentiality must be explained. Rural litigants may sometimes lack documentation needed to win at trial, but if there is a means of obtaining required documentation, it should be mentioned so they understand that going to trial is still a viable option.

**Recommendations for workshops for rural Haryana mediators**

Mediators working with HLSLSA can strengthen their skills by comparing notes in workshops on effective techniques and mutually beneficial outcomes of typical rural disputes. Workshop exercises raising rural disputes can be developed along the lines of the hypothetical business-to-business dispute included in the Mediation Training Manual of India at pp. 60-61. Mediators can share and learn from peers about the following issues, among others:

- Introduction of mediation: key points that may require special discussion;
- Active listening, to draw out a party's underlying interests;
- Compassionate ways to address difficult communications issues that arise in mediation, such as from humiliation, hurt, fear, and anger;
- Preparation for mediation on a matter outside the mediator's legal expertise;
- Brainstorming techniques to generate multiple options for resolution of particular disputes;
- Community resources which might be part of a resolution, e.g., a shelter, social work or counseling services, involvement of a teacher or other respected third party, NGO services, particular government programs;
- Helping the parties evaluate options;
- Ethical issues for the mediator such as conflict of interests;
- Intervening to diffuse coercion by a dominant party, and
- Documenting agreement.

Mediation in rural Haryana has the potential to benefit disputing parties by working out solutions that may not be available through the court and that may be speedier than court resolution can provide. To help parties reach fair outcomes, mediators require familiarity with the nature of the dispute (family law, consumer, insurance, banking, property, and the like) and DLSAs could create a pool of trained mediators for particular types of cases. Efforts should be made to sensitize lawyers to motivate their clients to opt for mediation as most of them are not in favour of this process and may perceive it as a threat to their profession. Our legal system should develop space to incorporate some incentives or rewards for lawyers who will settle their cases through mediation.

DLSAs should expand steps to familiarize the community about mediation through community media and legal literacy camps. S M Sehgal Foundation in collaboration with DLSA, Nuh has organized legal literacy camps at village level in which Secretary, DLSA and panel lawyers create awareness about their different programs; awareness about mediation can be part of such camps.

To fulfill the goal of access to justice, mediators must be sensitive to the contexts in rural communities. Mediation workshops help lawyers strengthen their skills to help parties see a dispute anew, imagine acceptable compromises, and voluntarily settle free from coercion.

---

*Prof. Jane Schukoske is an advisor to S M Sehgal Foundation.

## Statistical Information

### Number of Cases Disposed Off in the Permanent Lok Adalats (Public Utility Services)

**October & November, 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Pending as on 30.09.16</th>
<th>Fresh Inst.</th>
<th>Cases Settled</th>
<th>Tran.</th>
<th>Postal</th>
<th>Supply of Power</th>
<th>Public Cons.</th>
<th>Hospital</th>
<th>Insurance</th>
<th>Banking</th>
<th>Housing Settled</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Pendency as on 30.11.16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ambala</td>
<td>957</td>
<td>1106</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>833</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1176</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2774560</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhiwani</td>
<td>1327</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>795133</td>
<td>982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faridabad</td>
<td>971</td>
<td>516</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>231500</td>
<td>1044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatehabad</td>
<td>476</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>143750</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gurugram</td>
<td>631</td>
<td>1833</td>
<td>1376</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1332</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1250966</td>
<td>1088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hisar</td>
<td>2710</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1419383</td>
<td>2872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jind</td>
<td>2738</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>663</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1879245</td>
<td>2248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jhajjar</td>
<td>715</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>510335</td>
<td>445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnal</td>
<td>586</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12153807</td>
<td>572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kurukshetra</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>54624</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kurukshetra</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2393140</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuh</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>675</td>
<td>566</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8571621</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narnaul</td>
<td>636</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>4809817</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patiala</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panchkula</td>
<td>839</td>
<td>883</td>
<td>1348</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1283</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2814407</td>
<td>571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panipat</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2125842</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rohtak</td>
<td>475</td>
<td>1447</td>
<td>1260</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>538</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>651</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2747400</td>
<td>672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rewari</td>
<td>549</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5424383</td>
<td>651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sirsa</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>1088</td>
<td>1678</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1263476</td>
<td>588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonipat</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13553027</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y.Nagar</td>
<td>880</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1171118</td>
<td>672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>15825</strong></td>
<td><strong>10691</strong></td>
<td><strong>12685</strong></td>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
<td><strong>4420</strong></td>
<td><strong>1014</strong></td>
<td><strong>48</strong></td>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td><strong>161</strong></td>
<td><strong>6845</strong></td>
<td><strong>86</strong></td>
<td><strong>89243182</strong></td>
<td><strong>13831</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Statistical Information

## Number of Cases Settled in Lok Adalat, Daily Lok Adalat, Rural Lok Adalat, Mediation & Conciliation Centres in Each District in the State of Haryana (October & November 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>No. of Cases Taken up</th>
<th>Cases Settled in Lok Adalats</th>
<th>MACT Cases Settled</th>
<th>Amount Awarded</th>
<th>No. of settled cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ambala</td>
<td>5248</td>
<td>3890</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2200000</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhiwani</td>
<td>8369</td>
<td>2487</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>3175555</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatehabad</td>
<td>1848</td>
<td>848</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>4680000</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faridabad</td>
<td>3491</td>
<td>2630</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2070000</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gurugram</td>
<td>12949</td>
<td>6258</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>13318000</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hisar</td>
<td>4016</td>
<td>2034</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>11296000</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jind</td>
<td>3780</td>
<td>2035</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1500000</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jhajjar</td>
<td>2728</td>
<td>1924</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3930000</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kamal</td>
<td>6563</td>
<td>1570</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2970000</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karauli</td>
<td>3140</td>
<td>1808</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>730000</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KCR</td>
<td>3555</td>
<td>1324</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>10408000</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuh</td>
<td>598</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>190000</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narnaul</td>
<td>1493</td>
<td>603</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>9910000</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palwal</td>
<td>948</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PKL</td>
<td>8140</td>
<td>1794</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panipat</td>
<td>3661</td>
<td>1750</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>7362000</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rohtak</td>
<td>5787</td>
<td>3890</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1372000</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rewari</td>
<td>1416</td>
<td>778</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2306000</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sirsa</td>
<td>4541</td>
<td>2303</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonepat</td>
<td>4666</td>
<td>2302</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>3603000</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y. Nager</td>
<td>3998</td>
<td>1730</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>7530000</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>89325</strong></td>
<td><strong>43048</strong></td>
<td><strong>486</strong></td>
<td><strong>115596555</strong></td>
<td><strong>332</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Statistical Information

**Number of Legal Aid Beneficiaries in Court Based Legal Services, Legal Care and Support Centres and Number of Literacy Programmes Organized in Each District in the State of Haryana (October & November 2016)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Beneficiaries in Court Based Legal Services</th>
<th>Legal Care &amp; Support Centre Persons Visited</th>
<th>Legal Care &amp; Support Centre Beneficiaries</th>
<th>Literacy Programmes No. of Seminar(s)</th>
<th>Literacy Programmes Beneficiary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ambala</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>1206</td>
<td>1206</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>19713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhiwani</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>954</td>
<td>954</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>1611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faridabad</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>8712</td>
<td>8712</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>350422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faridkhabad</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1132</td>
<td>1132</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gurgaon</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>6664</td>
<td>1144</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>1790715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hissar</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>2319</td>
<td>2311</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>3231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jhajjar</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>1979</td>
<td>1979</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>17871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jind</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>649</td>
<td>649</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>3490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kurukshetra</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>698</td>
<td>698</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnal</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>2156</td>
<td>2155</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>10971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaithal</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>1892</td>
<td>1892</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>4799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narnaul</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>706</td>
<td>706</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>12646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuh</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1585</td>
<td>1045</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palwal</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>3006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panipat</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>3310</td>
<td>2727</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>9376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panchkula</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>1337</td>
<td>1337</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>24120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rewari</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1534</td>
<td>1534</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>3093</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rohtak</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>4860</td>
<td>4690</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>2708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonipat</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>1406</td>
<td>1406</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>3026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sirsa</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>1737</td>
<td>1737</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>1255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y.Nagar</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>1368</td>
<td>1321</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>6286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Office</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Court</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1742</strong></td>
<td><strong>45641</strong></td>
<td><strong>39448</strong></td>
<td><strong>3071</strong></td>
<td><strong>2273287</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
मानसिक रोगियों की मदद करें: जगत सिंह

संबंध सहायक, प्रकाश: मिला विषयक सेवाएं प्राप्त करने के लिए अपने कार्यालय के संबंध सहायक के रूप में सहायता करें।

कुरीतियों को समाज से पूरी तरह मिटाना है जरूरी: जगत सिंह

पुरवस रण का दायर कर जाना बच्चों का हाल

गार जीवन में अनोखा जीवन की रिहाई में सम्मिलित दुःख लिखा जाता है जिसका अभिव्यक्ति नहीं होता। यहाँ उन्होंने अपनी अनुभवों के लिए सेवा की और अन्यान्य व्यक्तियों को भी उनके अनुकरण में अपनी सहायता की जाती है।

'महिलाओं को आपने निभाना ही सशक्तिकरण'

वैकल्पिक मुख्य न्याय दल में विषयक सेवाएं प्राप्त करने के लिए कानूनी सहायता केंद्र
Jail inmates get access to legal protection

Justice Daya Chaudhary inaugurates centre set up by DLSA

The centre will help the inmates and undertrials in getting free legal aid from advocates on the panel. Besides, they will also be able to get information regarding judgments and hearings in different cases.

Earlier in the day, Justice Chaudhary monitored the proceedings of the National Lok Adalat at the District Court Complex, Ambala City. She said “More than 50 per cent cases pending in the courts can be settled at social and panchayat levels.”

Advocates must contribute towards settling maximum cases through lok adalats.”

Meanwhile, members of the District Bar Association raised their long-pending demands, including construction of more chambers and a litigant hall, before the High Court Judge.

District and Sessions Judge Deepak Gupta and Chief Judicial Magistrate Anuradha Yadav were present on this occasion.

The Tribune
epaper.tribuneindia.com/c/14718497

36
कानूनी साक्षरता प्रकोष्ठ के तहत विभिन्न प्रतियोगिताओं का किया आयोजन

सेमिनार में अवधारियों का किया जागरूक

कानूनी जागरूकता शिविर में किया आमजन को जागरूक

जयती पर जेल में गूंजे लोकगीत, बंदी-कैदी किए जागरूक

सी.जी.एम. थावान ने दी कानून संबंधी जानकारी
The society that treats man and woman with equal dignity shows the reflections of a progressive and civilized society. To think that a woman should think what a man or a society wants her to think is tantamount to slaughtering her choice, and definitely a humiliating act. When freedom of free choice is allowed within constitutional and statutory parameters, others cannot determine the norms as that would amount to acting in derogation of law.

Voluntary Health Association of Punjab  
vs  
Union of India & others  
(Judgment dated 08.11.2016)