



NEWSLETTER

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(From Left to Right) Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikramajit Sen, Judge, High Court of Delhi & Executive Chairman, DLSA; Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dipak Misra, Chief Justice, High Court of Delhi & Patron-in-Chief, DLSA and Mr. G. P. Mittal, District & Sessions Judge - I addressing the gathering at the Orientation Programme for Panel Lawyers (Civil) on 3rd June, 2010 at Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi.

ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR CIVIL LAWYERS

In continuation of the decision of the Delhi Legal Services Authority to have an Orientation and Training Programme for newly empanelled lawyers, 3rd July, 2010 saw the Orientation and Training Programme for the civil lawyers recently empanelled for all District Courts. The format was the same. The first session was an Introductory Session. This was followed by two Technical Sessions, one dealing with Client Counseling Ethics and Procedure and the last session dealing with Drafting and Examination and Cross Examination of Witnesses.

The Introductory Session was addressed by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of the High Court of Delhi & Patron-in-Chief, DLSA Mr. Justice Dipak Misra and Executive Chairman, DLSA; Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikramajit Sen, Judge, High Court of Delhi underlining the importance attached to the Orientation and Training Programmes of the DLSA. The Hon'ble Executive Chairman, Mr. Justice Vikramajit Sen compared the situation prevailing when His Lordship had entered the profession and the attitude then adopted towards giving legal aid. His Lordship observed that now legal aid had become greatly formalized and structured to be far more effective than before. His Lordship requested the lawyers to appreciate the opportunity they were getting while handling legal aid matters. His Lordship's advise to the panel lawyers was to be totally dedicated to the cause of the client, as being empanelled with the DLSA cast a duty upon them to do their best.

The Hon'ble Patron-in-Chief Mr. Justice Dipak Misra broke the barriers of communication through his erudite and humorous style and reached out to each of the panel lawyers motivating them to acquaint themselves responsibly in the aim to make access to justice meaningful. His Lordship requested the lawyers to understand that becoming a legal aid counsel was for serving the cause of legal aid, to serve the people who were poor and impecunious and was thus a divine duty. His Lordship said that orientation was necessary so that one knew what one was required to do and it was also the means of sharing experience and concerns. His Lordship listed the qualities of an empanelled lawyer as one who was sincere, self sacrificing, well prepared with the brief, available in court till disposal of the case, fair and frank while giving his opinion on the existence of a prima facie case, and who was full of perseverance. His Lordship requested the panel lawyers to conduct themselves in a befitting manner that would do the DLSA proud.

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Technical Session -I

Mr. Siddharth Luthra, Sr. Advocate and Member, DLSA emphasized on the need for work ethics while dealing with clients, particularly legal aid beneficiaries, Mr. Luthra took the panel lawyers through the Bar Council Rules and the Advocates Act and also discussed their relevance contextually by correlating them to client counseling and handling of cases in the Court, Ms. Shalini Kapoor, Advocate traced the history and the background of the various provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure. Ms. Shalini Kapoor gave an overview of the CPC and its salient features with particular emphasis on the significance of the amendments to the CPC for rendering speedy justice.

PARA-LEGAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

The Para-Legal Training Programme of the DLSA for Jail Inmates continued on the 7th July, 2010 on the topics of 'FIR & Bail'. On 20th July, 2010, Mr. Kuldeep Narayan, Secretary, South District Legal Services Authority & Sh. Gautam Manan, Project Officer, DLSA conducted a revision of all the topics taken during various training sessions such as Free Legal Aid, Plea Bargaining, Rights and Duties of Prisoners including Parole & Furlough. On 27th July, 2010, a comprehensive examination was taken of the jail inmates which was both oral & written. The inmates were tested for their assimilation of the information given during the Training Sessions. The examination was conducted by Mr. Manish Yaduvanshi, Secretary, West District; Mr. Shailender Malik, Secretary, North District & Mr. Mohinder Virat, Secretary, South-West District. Ms. Geetanjali Goel, Secretary, New Delhi District assessed the answer sheets. The DLSA intends to issue certificates to the successful jail inmates.

SECRETARIES MEET

On 14th July, 2010 a Meeting was convened for the Secretaries of the District Authorities by the Member Secretary, DLSA. Various issues of Administration and Management of the Authority Offices were discussed in the this meeting. The Member Secretary also discussed with the Secretaries the need for a 'Front Office' as per the scheme of NALSA. The Secretaries were once again impressed upon to maintain proper data for case monitoring and for monitoring the release of accused on bail. The Secretaries were asked to meet Judges in their respective Districts to ensure proper and adequate reference of cases to the Saturday Lok Adalats. The forthcoming awareness programmes on Anti-Ragging, which the Secretaries would be required to attend with other resource persons to spread awareness of anti-ragging laws in various colleges/universities at Delhi were also discussed.

Technical Session-II

Mr. G.P. Thareja, Addl. District & Sessions Judge, (Retd.) drew on his vast experience to tell the panel lawyers about the pitfalls in drafting pleadings. He underlined the significance of proper garnering of facts, proper valuation of the suits and fixing the jurisdictions, setting out in clear and specific terms the cause of action. He also advised the lawyers to be careful while drafting the relief clause and verifying the complaints and written statements.

Mr. Deepak Gupta, Sr. Advocate asked the lawyers to be thorough with their case before embarking on the examination and cross examination of witnesses in civil matters. He informed the gathering that there were many techniques for approaching the witnesses to extract beneficial admissions in favour of the client. He also cautioned the panel lawyers not to forget putting the case of the client to the witnesses before concluding their examination.



From left to right are Ms. Kiran Khurana, HOD, Women's Hostel; Ms. Geetanjali Goel and Ms. Kiran Khurana addressing the residents of Women's Hostel, YWCA at KKD.

AWARENESS PROGRAMME

The Delhi Legal Services Authority has associated itself with YWCA for rendering legal assistance and spreading legal awareness through the various local centres of the YWCA. On 27th July, 2010, a legal awareness programme was organized by the DLSA in association with the YWCA at their Community Service Centre located at Karkardooma. Ms. Asha Menon, Member Secretary, DLSA and Ms. Geetanjali Goel, Secretary, New Delhi District Legal Services Authority addressed the gathering of women who were residents of the slums in the vicinity. The women were not only informed about the activities of the Delhi Legal Services Authority but were also informed that legal aid was available to them at the Karkardooma Courts close by which they could access in times of need. During the Interactive Session, various issues relating to Domestic Violence, Matrimonial Laws, MACT etc were discussed and the women were advised to follow up the discussion by meeting the Secretaries at Karkardooma Courts (East District & North-East District) for legal follow up and filing of cases.

Ms. Geetanjali Goel, Secretary, New Delhi District Legal Services Authority addressed a sizeable group of working women at the YWCA's Priyadarshini Hostel for Women, KKD on issues relating to sexual harassment at workplace and other employment related issues. The session which commenced at 7:30 PM went on till 9 PM and the participants highly appreciated the efforts of Ms. Geetanjali Goel, Secretary, New District in answering their queries.



Camera Team of Films Division at Urdu Park

Ms. Geetanjali Goel, Secy, New Delhi District holding a special sitting with mentally ill persons, on her right is Ms. Anuradha Vashisth, Legal Aid Advocate at Urdu Park.



LOK ADALAT

On request of the Delhi Jal Board, DLSA organized a Lok Adalat for settlement of bill matters below Rs.20,000/- pending in respect of three Districts of Delhi. Out of a total of 135 cases, 117 cases were settled and bills worth Rs. 5,19,050/- were settled in favour of the Delhi Jal Board. The Delhi Jal Board had also undertaken the publicity aspect of this Lok Adalat both in the newspapers as well as on Radio. It also shared the burden of printing handbills for informing the public of the Lok Adalat.

The other disposals of cases in our regular Second Saturday Lok Adalat held on 10th July, 2010 are as below;

- In MACT Lok Adalat, 63 cases were settled and compensation worth Rs. 1,43,53,602/- was awarded in favour of the claimants.
- In Lok Adalat for Bank Recovery matters, 62 pre-litigative cases were disposed off in which settlements worth Rs. 5,79,764/- were reached.
- 879 cases of N.I. Act U/S 138 were disposed of.
- 26 Civil Cases, ADR & other Criminal Compoundable Cases were also disposed of.

FILMING OF DOCUMENTARY WITH FILMS DIVISION

As was informed in our last Newsletter, the Delhi Legal Services Authority is filming a Documentary on its activities with the help of the Films Division, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting Govt. of India. The final shooting was concluded this month with the filming of the hearings at Mental Health Clinic, Urdu Park, Jama Masjid area, where DLSA has been organizing the Mobile Court of Metropolitan Magistrate on every Monday in association with IHBAS.

MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC

Since November, 2008, the DLSA in coordination with the Govt, Hospital IHBAS (Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences) and in association with an NGO Ashraya Adhikar Abhiyan (AAA) has been organizing the Special Sitting of a Metropolitan Magistrate on each Monday at the Jama Masjid area of Delhi where a clinic is being conducted for the homeless persons, Since mentally ill persons were also found in need of medical care without being necessarily hospitalized, on the request of IHBAS and after due approval of the High Court of Delhi, an MM also being the Legal Services Committee/Authority Secretary attends the clinic to

dispose of the applications moved by the NGO for involuntary treatment of the homeless mentally ill persons. Through this exercise over a period of time 44 patients have benefited directly or indirectly. Though the Magistrate are careful while directing involuntary treatment, the very presence of the Magistrates strengthens the hands of the Doctors while insisting with the patients for continuance of the voluntary treatment. The several success stories, where due to the intervention of the Magistrate, the treatment has resulted in the complete recovery of the mentally ill-homeless persons, encourages the DLSA to continue with this programme. The DLSA also ensures the presence of a legal aid lawyer during the proceedings to represent the interest of the mentally ill persons who are brought before the Magistrate for treatment orders by the NGO.

MEETING FOR "ORPHAN & VULNERABLE CHILDREN INFECTED OR AFFECTED BY HIV/AIDS"

Delhi State Aid Control Society in collaboration with Delhi Legal Services Authority convened a meeting for the cause of "Orphan & Vulnerable Children infected or affected by HIV/AIDS" in the State of Delhi on 21.07.10 at 11:30 AM at Conference Hall, Delhi Secretariat under the Chairmanship of Secretary of Minister of Health & Family Welfare. Mr. Gautam Manan, Project Officer, DLSA attended the meeting for ensuring the rights of children affected with HIV/AIDS; mitigating discrimination in the schools & society; provision of Nutritional support for all CLHIVs families and for ensuring provision of all existing Govt. Schemes for the children affected with HIV/AIDS by developing linkage with Department of Women & Children Development, Education Department and Legal Cell.

LABOUR REGISTRATION

In compliance with the directions of Hon'ble the Chief Justice, High Court of Delhi and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manmohan, DLSA provided three advocates who were required to go to the various sites where constructions activity in connection with the Commonwealth Games are in progress. The lawyers as per the following schedule visited the various areas and informed the workers of their rights and helped in registering them for availing of various benefits assured to them under the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and the Unorganized Worker's Social Security Act, 2008. Mr. Gautam Manan, Project Officer, DLSA visited the one of the construction site on 21st July, 2010,. As per the directions of the Hon'ble High Court on the schedule being provided by the Department of Labour Shri N.D. Kumar, Shri Saurabh Rastogi and Shri Raj Kumar visited the following construction sites :-

S.No	Dated	Area covered
1.	19 th & 20 th July, 2010	Commonwealth Games Village Akshardham Complex
2.	21 st July, 2010	Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium
3.	22 nd July, 2010	Shastri Park
4.	23 rd & 24 th July, 2010	International Airport, Delhi
5.	26 th July, 2010	BC 16, Tughlak Road
6.	28 th July, 2010	Africa Avenue & Surroundings
7.	30 th July, 2010	Yamuna Cycling Velodrome
8.	31 st July, 2010	Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium

DELHI HIGH COURT LEGAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dipak Misra,
Chief Justice, High Court of Delhi &
Patron-in-Chief, DLSA

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikramajit Sen,
Executive Chairman, DLSA & Judge,
High Court of Delhi

Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.K. Sikri,
Chairman, DHCLSC & Judge,
High Court of Delhi

Member Secretary
Ms. Asha Menon,
DHJS

Officer on Special Duty
Mr. R.K. Singh, DJS

Project Officer
Mr. Gautam Manan, DJS

LIST OF SECRETARIES

- 1. Mr. Satish Kumar, MM,**
Secretary, North West District,
Rohini Courts
- 2. Mr. Pooran Chand, MM,**
Secretary, East District,
Karkardooma Courts.
- 3. Mr. Gorakh Nath Pandey, CCJ,**
Secretary, East District,
Karkardooma Courts.
- 4. Mr. Shailender Malik, MM,**
Secretary, North District,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi.
- 5. Mr. Manish Yaduvanshi, MM,**
Secretary, West District,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi.
- 6. Mr. Sameer Bajpai, ARC,**
Secretary, Central District,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi.
- 7. Ms. Geetanji Goel, MM,**
Secretary, New Delhi District,
Patiala House Courts.
- 8. Mr. Kuldeep Narayan, ACJ,**
Secretary, South District,
Patiala House Courts.
- 9. Mr. Mohinder Virat, ACJ,**
Secretary, South West District,
Dwarka Courts.

CONTINUOUS LOK ADALAT

In July, 2010 former Judges including Justice Satpal, Justice J.P. Singh, Justice R. P. Gupta (Retired) and advocates Ms. Vibha Mahajan, Mr. Neeraj Arora, Mr. V.P.S. Charak, Ms Reena Jain Malhotra, Mr. Anish Dhingra, Ms. Aarti Mahajan, Mr. Vishwa Bhushan Arya and Ms. Deepali Gupta presided over the continuous Lok Adalat held in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in which 08 cases have been settled. 31 matters are pending at the end of the month before the Continuous Lok Adalat.

MEDIATION CENTRE AT CAW CELL, MAURYA ENCLAVE

In the month of July, 2010, 17 fresh cases have been received out of which 02 cases have been settled. The total pendency as on 31st July, 2010 are 31.

MEDIATION CENTRE AT CAW CELL, NANAKPURA

In the month of July, 2010, 26 fresh cases were received out of which 08 cases were amicably settled. The total cases pending as on 24th July, 2010 are 42. Till date 120 cases have been settled in CAW Cell, Nanakpura through Mediation.

HIGH COURT REFERRED CASES AT DHCLSC

In the month of July, 2010, 03 Cases have been referred by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi for settlement through conciliation.

VIDEO CONFERENCING

DHCLSC is holding Video conferencing on every Friday at Hon'ble High Court of Delhi for the benefits of jail inmates. In the month of July, 2010, four video conferencing sessions were held in which 87 inmates benefited through interaction with their counsel.

LEGAL AID

In the month of July, 2010, 70 applications for Legal Aid were received by the Committee out of which 46 have been provided legal aid by DHCLSC for filing matters in the Court.

JAIL PETITION

In the month of July, 2010, 102 jail petitions have been received and all the inmates have been provided Legal Aid Counsel to pursue their cases before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.

COMPENSATION CHEQUES

In the month of July, 2010, a total of 04 Cheques have been released to the beneficiaries pursuant to settlement of MACT claims by the Continuous Lok Adalat.

PERMANENT LEGAL AID CLINIC

The Permanent Legal Aid Clinic at DHCLSC office is continuing to be of services to the persons who need legal advice. After initial interaction with the lawyers at Permanent Legal Aid Clinic, if so opined by the lawyers, cases are filed in the Court or matter settled through conciliation.