

MINIMUM PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NALSA SCHEMES IN YEAR ONE

GENERAL ACTION FOR ALL SCHEMES

- Identify districts in the State/Union territory that are relevant and most in need of strategic intervention in case of each individual scheme.
- Constitute teams of PLVs and panel lawyers for working on each of the scheme in the respective districts.
- Identify government departments and district authorities responsible for implementing government schemes on the subject matter in question.
- Request the concerned department, Divisional Commissioner or District Collector to nominate one officer as the nodal officer who would be responsible for ensuring the convergence of NALSA's schemes with the policies, schemes and guidelines of the government on the subject matter. In the absence of a regular officer to fulfil this role, ensure that a retired officer is appointed to take on these responsibilities. This post of a nodal officer can also be assigned to an NGO working on the scheme, an academicians or an expert in the field. Remuneration for such officer may be fixed, as determined by the Executive Chairman of each SLSA.
- Conduct sensitization programmes/skills training for the team members with the help of the Nodal officer, NGOs, academicians or any other persons having special knowledge/skills on the subject matter
- Identify NGOs working at the district level on various aspects of each scheme. Assess their utility and send proposals for accreditation of such NGOs to NALSA.
- Continue providing legal services to those entitled under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act in districts other than those identified to benefit from these schemes.

SPECIFIC ACTION

NALSA (Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation) Scheme, 2015

- Identify districts that are source, transit and destination locations for trafficking and prostitution. Discern the different typology of sex workers, including those belonging to the transgender community and maintain a database of these individuals at the district level.
- Identify existing PLVs suitable to work in this area, preferably with some association with or prior experience of working with the community. They can be sex workers, members from NGOs working in this area etc.
- Plan, prepare and implement awareness, training and sensitization programmes that can be organized on the subject of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, along with the relevant government department or nodal officer. The programmes must be organised for victims, their families, the general public and for stakeholders working for the victims of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.
- Collect all the government welfare schemes and compensation measures relevant to prevention, rescue and rehabilitation for victims of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. Collate and display this information in the office of every Legal Services Institution. Publish this information in pamphlets that can be utilized to raise awareness. Also, take steps to assist the victims in availing the benefits under the said Scheme.
- Continue providing legal assistance to victims of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation at the time of rescue and during trial.
- Integrate and coordinate with all stakeholders including government agencies and NGOs for rescue and rehabilitation of victims.

- Ensure that compensation is awarded and paid to victims of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation under the Victims Compensation Scheme or POCSO Act, as the case may be.

NALSA (Legal Services to the Workers in the Unorganised Sector) Scheme, 2015

- Identify different categories and populations of unorganised workers and create a database at the district level. Identify districts where there is a higher density of these workers.
- Collect information on the existence of Social Security Boards and Workers Facilitation Centres in each district. Coordinate with the relevant government department for their establishment, where not present.
- Plan, prepare outlines and implement awareness programmes, trainings or colloquia to provide information to different categories of unorganised workers on the schemes, benefits and social security measures they are entitled to. Plan and carry out sensitizations, seminars and symposia for employers on statutory provisions and need to provide decent working conditions, living wages and social security to workers.
- Collate information; prepare pamphlets and display information at every Legal Services Institution on the schemes and benefits available to unorganised workers.
- Provide assistance and help all unorganised workers with their registration for benefits under the various schemes. Identify and maintain a database of government authorities to be approached for successfully availing these benefits and coordinate with them, where necessary.

NALSA (Child Friendly Legal Services to Children and their Protection) Scheme, 2015

- Collate information on all the existing schemes, policies, regulations, SOPs, directives etc. on the subject of child welfare and protection. Prepare pamphlets and display this information at every Legal Services Institution and child welfare functionary such as JJBs, CWCs in the district.
- Identify the authorities and institutions in each district that are working in this area such as JJBs, CWCs, Observation and Shelter homes, Offices of Probation Officers etc. set out by the JJ Act and other legislations, such as the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, the Guardians and Wards Act, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act etc. Coordinate with these authorities and institutions, where necessary. Identify counselling and other institutional support provided at these places. Create and maintain a data of the same at the district level.
- Identify existing PLVs who would best be able to contribute to the implementation of this scheme, preferably those with experience or expertise in working on the issues outlined thereunder.
- Discern if all JJBs and CWCs have a functional legal services clinic in their premises. If not, ensure that they are set up at the earliest. Also, determine if an adequate number of panel lawyers have been deputed to these clinics and that their performance is monitored.
- Plan, prepare and implement awareness programmes for juveniles in conflict with law and those in need of care and protection, along with their guardians. To this end, ensure that legal literacy programmes are conducted in all schools. Put together and carry out sensitization and training programmes towards an understanding and capacity building of various functionaries to ensure the protection of children and that they are provided child friendly legal services.

- Analyse the reports of the committee on observation and children homes on a quarterly basis and take/recommend corrective actions wherever required.

NALSA (Legal Services to the Mentally Ill and the Mentally Disabled) Scheme, 2015

- Create a database of all psychiatric hospitals, homes and facilities at the district level in each State/Union territory.
- Identify PLVs who are suited to work in the area of mental health, with respect to the provisions of this scheme.
- Collate information on the basic rights and benefits that ought to be ensured to the mentally ill and mentally disabled. Print pamphlets with this information and ensure their wide dissemination. Display this information at Legal Services and Mental Health Institutions.
- Identify the legal provisions under the Mental Health Act and other such legislations that apply to the mentally ill and mentally disabled. Prepare a compendium of these legal provisions along with the relevant case law applicable to them.
- Outline and carry out sensitization programmes to inform mental health officials such as doctors, nurses, police officials, judicial magistrates dealing with inquisition proceedings etc. on the mentally ill and disabled, with a view to their rights.
- Plan, prepare and implement destigmatization programmes on mental illness and disability for the general public so that those suffering with these infirmities are not ill treated, and in addition to these being acknowledged and treated.

NALSA (Protection and Enforcement of Tribal Rights) Scheme, 2015

- Identify districts with a high density of tribal population. In addition, identify each tribal community and the problems they face on issues of harassment, land, health, education and otherwise and create a database of the same.
- Identify existing PLVs who have an understanding and are suitable to work on this scheme. Preference must be given to members from the tribal community, those working with them or experts in the area of tribal rights.
- Collate information on the schemes, policies and guidelines aimed at assisting the tribal community. Prepare pamphlets, distribute them and display the information so collected.
- Identify government departments in the district that are to provide benefits under the schemes, policies etc. to the tribal community, along with reasons for any failure on their part. Coordinate with the concerned government departments to ensure that the intended benefits reach the individuals of these communities.
- Plan, prepare and implement awareness programmes aimed at providing individuals from the tribal community information about their rights, the schemes and the benefits they are entitled to as a result.

NALSA (Legal Services to the Victims of Drug Abuse and Eradication of Drug Menace) Scheme, 2015

- Identify districts where there is a large prevalence of drugs and drug abuse, along with communities that are prone to use or distribute these substances.

- Create a database of Panchayati raj and other government institutions, social welfare organisations, and NGOs that can help or have worked to eradicate the use and sale of drugs in the community.
- Coordinate with Panchayati Raj institutions and other government departments concerned to prevent and destroy illegal cultivation of plants used to produce drugs.
- Identify existing PLVs who can best assist with the implementation of this scheme, with a focus on experts and those with experience working in this area including former drug addicts.
- Collate information on existing policies, schemes, regulations etc. for effective prevention, rehabilitation and elimination of the use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Print pamphlets, distribute them and display this information using signboards, hoardings etc.
- Plan, prepare and carry out awareness and de-stigmatization programmes amongst drug addicts, their families, students, farmers, chemists, and to the general public on the use of drugs and its negative effects. Organise these using the assistance of former drug addicts wherever possible.
- Identify de-addiction and rehabilitation centres and maintain a database of these at the district level.