

NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICE DAY
9th November 2023

St. Edmund's College
Shillong



SIGNIFICANCE

- National Legal Services Day was established to raise legal awareness among the citizens.
- To offer free legal services to those who cannot afford them at the national, state, and district levels.
- The apex body the **National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)** was constituted on 5th Dec 1995 under the Legal Services Authorities Act 1987 to provide free Legal Services to the weaker sections of the society and to organize Lok Adalats for amicable settlement of disputes.
- **The Chief Justice of India** is the Patron-in-Chief of NALSA
- At the State level, **State Legal Services Authority** pursue the policies and directions of the **NALSA**
- The State Legal Services Authority is headed by the **Hon'ble Chief Justice** of the respective High Court

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA OF APPLICANTS FOR PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICES

- (a) A member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe;
- (b) A victim of trafficking in human beings or begar as referred to in Article 23 of the Constitution;
- (c) A woman or a child;
- (d) A mentally ill or otherwise disabled person;
- (e) A victim of a mass disaster, ethnic violence, caste atrocity, flood, drought, earthquake or industrial disaster;
- (f) an industrial workman;
- (g) In custody, including custody in a protective home within the meaning of clause (g) of section 2 of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (104 of 1956); or in a juvenile home within the meaning of clause (j) of section 2 of the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 (53 of 1986) or in a psychiatric hospital or psychiatric nursing home within the meaning of clause (g) of section 2 of the Mental Health Act, 1987 (14 of 1987);
- (h) In receipt of annual income less than the amount mentioned or any higher amount as prescribed

Legal Services Authorities examine the eligibility criteria of applicants and if eligible, provide counsel at State expense, pay the required Court Fee and bear all incidental expenses in connection with the case..

- **'Nyaya Deep'**, is the quarterly official newsletter of NALSA where statistical information in regard to legal aid schemes and programmes is also included
- **"Legal Aid Counsel"** is provided in most of the courts of the Magistrates in the country to provide immediate legal assistance to those prisoners who are not in a position to engage their own counsel.

For more information: <https://nalsa.gov.in/about-us>

Address & Contact Details in Meghalaya

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