

**REPORT OF
VISIT OF ASSAM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY AND
MEETING WITH HON'BLE Mr. JUSTICE UJJAL BHUYAN, JUDGE, GAUHATI HIGH COURT
AND EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN, MIZORAM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY ON
30.05.2019**

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Mr. Vanlalenmawia, Member Secretary with his staffs namely, Miss Mimi H. Rosiamliani, Project Coordinator, Mr. K. Lalropuia, LDC, Mr. Lalengvara, Para Legal Volunteers, Mr.Zonunsanga, Driver, Mizoram SLSA visited Assam State Legal Services Authority to have a study on functioning of Assam SLSA and had a meeting with the Hon`ble Mr. Justice Ujjal Bhuyan, Judge, Gauhati High Court and Executive Chairman, Mizoram SLSA on 30.05.2019 at 11:00 a.m. and 06:30 p.m. respectively.

A. VISITING OF ASSAM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

- 1) **Allocation of fund to District Legal Services Authorities** : There are 33 DLSAs under Assam SLSA. Allocation of funds to DLSA is prepared as per their requirement, however, all their requirements could not be fulfilled due to insufficiency of funds from NALSA.
- 2) **Audit** : Accounts maintained by DLSAs used to be audited in two steps. Firstly, their accounts are checked by Chartered Accountant and thereafter audited are conducted by Accountant General. Audits are usually conducted by the DLSAs themselves as Auditors are available in each districts.
- 3) **Maintenance of Accounts** : State Funds and NALSA Funds are maintained separately by the Accountants. Ledger is also well maintained by both the Accountants.
- 4) **Legal Aid Counsels** : There are 80 Legal Aid Counsels under Assam SLSA and 700 Legal Aid Counsels under District Legal Services Authorities. The

LACs are appointed for a period of two years. No new appointment is made until the appointment expired.

- 5) **Legal Aid** : The litigants seek legal aid either through written petition or through prescribed applications prepared by the SLSA both in English and in vernacular language (Assamese).

The upper limit of annual income of persons from all sources shall not exceed Rs. 3.00 lakh for entitling to legal services under section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. (Notification No. LGL.165/2018/7 date 28.12.2018)

- 6) **Training of PLVs and Legal Aid Counsels** : The Assam SLSA imparted training for both PLVs and LACs once every year.
- 7) **Legal Awareness Campaign** : Legal Awareness Campaigns are conducted by the DLSAs whereas workshops, seminars and bigger legal awareness campaigns are conducted by the SLSA.
- 8) **Legal Aid Clinics** : Legal Aid Clinics are monitored by the DLSAs and inspections are done by the SLSA.
- 9) **Lok Adalat** : Regular Lok Adalat are conducted as per the calendar prepared by the SLSA whereas separate lok adalat is conducted for Banks and Insurances.

Jail Mobile Lok Adalats were conducted whereas minimal cases like, bail petitions were disposed.

- 10) **14th Finance Commission** : The Assam SLSA received funds from 14th Finance Commission amounting to Rs. 679.05001 lakh for Lok Adalat, ADR Activities and Mediators for the financial year 2015-16 to 2019-2020.
- 11) **Vehicle** : Assam SLSA purchased new vehicle from the funds received from NALSA for Member Secretary, Assam SLSA.

B. MEETING WITH HON`BLE EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN, MIZORAM SLSA

- 1) **The Mizoram Victims of Crime Compensation Scheme, 2019** : Draft of the Mizoram Victims of Crime Compensation Scheme, 2019 prepared by the Mizoram SLSA was placed before the Hon`ble Executive Chairman for His Lordship`s kind perusal and consideration.
- 2) **The Mizoram State Legal Services Authority Services Rules, 2019** : Draft of the Mizoram State Legal Services Authority Services Rules, 2019 prepared by the Mizoram State Legal Services Authority was placed before the Hon`ble Executive Chairman for His Lordship`s kind perusal and consideration.
- 3) **Post of Deputy Secretary and Under Secretary** : Proposal was made to the State Government with a request to create one post each for Deputy Secretary and Under Secretary under the office of Mizoram State Legal Services Authority. A copy of the same was placed before the Hon`ble Executive Chairman for His Lordship`s kind information.
- 4) **Senior Citizens` Guide** : The Hon`ble Executive Chairman was informed that the Senior Citizens` Guide, 2019 was translated in Mizo language and intends to release the said booklet by the Hon`ble Chief Minister, Mizoram at his convenient time.
- 5) **Booklet – KHAWNVAR** : The Hon`ble Executive Chairman was informed that Booklet- KHAWNVAR, compilation of different articles relating to law is preparing by the Mizoram SLSA. The Hon`ble Minister, Law and Judicial Department and the Secretary, Law and Judicial Department were also requested to write a MESSAGE for this booklet.
- 6) **Translation of NALSA Schemes** : Hon`ble Executive Chairman was informed that the 10 Schemes of National Legal Services Authority is translating into Mizo language and will publish the compilation for distribution.

- 7) **National Level Seminar** : As discussed with the Hon`ble Executive Chairman, it is proposed to conduct National Level Seminar at Aizawl during this year, 2019 in the month of October or November.
- 8) **Training of Secretariat Officers** : High Court Legal Services Committee, Gauhati High Court, Aizawl Bench intends to conduct training for Secretariat Officers in collaboration with Mizoram State Legal Services Authority on 28th June, 2019. The matter was placed before the Hon`ble Executive Chairman, Mizoram SLSA. The convenient time for Hon`ble Executive Chairman will be 12th July, 2019 (Friday), therefore, he requested to postpone the date.

The Hon`ble Executive Chairman requested to invite the Station Judge, GHC, Aizawl Bench and the Adviser to Chief Minister, Mizoram as Special Guests.

- 9) **Status of Construction of ADR Centre Building** : The Hon`ble Executive Chairman was informed about the current status of construction of ADR Centre Building by handing over the photo copies.