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SIKKIM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 9 Issue No. 1

January - March, 2017

**SENSITIZATION PROGRAMME ON
SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF WOMEN AT WORKPLACE
(PREVENTION, PROHIBITION AND REDRESSAL) ACT, 2013
(for the Working Women)
on
24th March, 2017
at
CHINTAN BHAWAN, GANGTOK, SIKKIM.
Organized by: SIKKIM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY.**

Editorial Board

Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.K. Agnihotri, Chief Justice, High Court of Sikkim and
Patron-in-Chief, Sikkim S.L.S.A.

Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai, Judge, High Court of Sikkim and
Executive Chairperson, Sikkim S.L.S.A.

Compiled by

Mr. K.W. Bhutia, Registrar, High Court of Sikkim and
Member Secretary, Sikkim S.L.S.A.

LEGAL SERVICES STALLS SET-UP DURING MAGHEY MELA

Legal services stalls were set up during Maghey Mela from 14th to 16th January, 2017 at Singtam, East District and at Jorethang, South District to disseminate information about free legal aid and services provided by Sikkim SLSA. Pamphlets containing various messages about legal services published by Sikkim SLSA were distributed to the public.

The legal services stall was manned by PLVs Mrs. Indra Maya Nepal and Ms. Passang Kipu Lepcha and staff of Sikkim SLSA at Singtam, East Sikkim.

For the South District, Panel Advocates Ms. Mukun D. Tamang and Ms. Prasuna Sharma along with PLV Ms. Phul Maya Pradhan and staff of Sikkim SLSA manned the legal services stall at Jorethang, South Sikkim.



Singtam, East District



Jorethang, South District

REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION

Sikkim State Legal Services Authority celebrated 69th Republic Day in the Office premises at Development Area, Gangtok on 26th January, 2017. The National Flag was hoisted by Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai, Judge, High Court of Sikkim and Executive Chairperson, Sikkim SLSA followed by National Anthem.

The programme was attended by Judicial Officers, Ex-Officio Members of Sikkim SLSA, Panel Advocates, Officers and staff of Sikkim SLSA.

OBSERVANCE OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

In accordance with the calendar of activities, the District Legal Services Authorities and Taluk Legal Services Committees under the aegis of Sikkim SLSA observed International Women's Day on 8th March, 2017 and a week thereafter, as Legal Services Week.



*Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Meenakshi M. Rai
receiving Guard of Honour
on the Republic Day*

The following locations were covered by DLSAs/TLSCs during the occasion:-

1.	East District	08.03.2017	Working Women's Hostel, Deorali.
2.	West District	08.03.2017	(i) Conference Hall of ADR Centre, Gyalshing, (ii) Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya, Gerethang and (iii) Singling GPU, Soreng.
3.	North District	08.03.2017	ADR Centre, Pentok, Mangan.
4.	South District	08.03.2017 10.03.2017 14.03.2017	(i) Damthang, (ii) Dristi NGO, Namchi and (iii) Kitam.

International Women's Day organized by various Para-Legal Volunteers and Legal Literacy Club, PNG School, Gangtok



Kaiyong, Pakyong, East District



Pakyong ICDS Centre, East District



Rhenock ICDS Centre, East District



Thasa Lingdong, Khamdong, East District



Panchayat Hall, Rhenock, East District



PNG School, Gangtok, East District

15TH ALL INDIA MEET OF STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES

Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai, Judge, High Court of Sikkim and Executive Chairperson, Sikkim SLSA along with Mr. K.W. Bhutia, Registrar, High Court of Sikkim and Member Secretary, Sikkim SLSA and Mrs. Matilda Isaacs, Special Secretary, Sikkim SLSA attended the 15th All India Meet of State Legal Services Authorities on 18th & 19th March, 2017 at Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra, Rizal Marg, Chanakya Puri, New Delhi.

TWO-DAYS TRAINING PROGRAMME ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT AT WORKPLACE

In compliance to the directions of Hon'ble High Court of Sikkim in the W.P. (P.I.L.) No. 05/2015 (Yangchen Dahdul v. State of Sikkim & Others), two-days training programme on Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition & Redressal) Act, 2013 for the Internal Complaint Committees and Female Employees from various Departments of the Government, public undertakings, private sectors, Banks and pharmaceutical companies was organized by Sikkim SLSA on the following dates and venues:

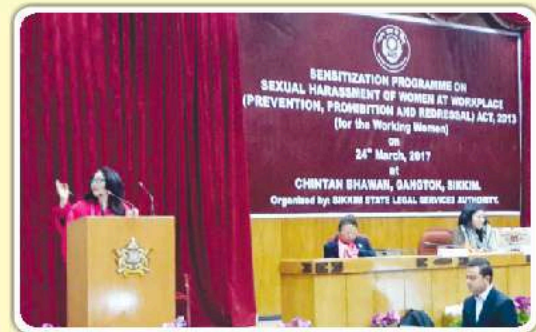
Date	Venue	Participants
24.03.2017	Chintan Bhawan, Gangtok, East Sikkim	1494 Female Employees from 73 Government Departments, Private Sectors, Pharmaceutical Companies and Banks.
25.03.2017	Mini Hall, Manan Kendra, Development Area, Gangtok, East Sikkim.	234 Members of Internal Complaint Committees from 45 Government Departments, Private Sectors, Pharmaceutical Companies and Banks.

Ms. Nandita Pradhan Bhatt, Programme Manager, Martha Farell Foundation (PRIA) and Dr. Doma T. Bhutia, Advocate, High Court of Sikkim were the Resource Persons.

The participants were familiarized with the provisions of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition & Redressal) Act, 2013 and sensitized about various facets of sexual harassment. The Members of the Internal Complaints Committee were informed as to how they should go about and dispose of the complaint of an aggrieved person.



Ms. Nandita Pradhan Bhatt, Prog. Manager, Martha Farell Foundation (PRIA) addressing the gathering



Dr. Doma T. Bhutia, Advocate addressing the gathering



Participants at Chintan Bhawan, Gangtok, East Sikkim on 24.03.2017



Interaction with members of Internal Complaints Committee at Mini Hall, Manan Kendra, Gangtok

MEETING WITH REMAND ADVOCATES

As per the directions of Hon'ble Executive Chairperson, Sikkim SLSA, a meeting chaired by Mr. K.W. Bhutia, Registrar, High Court of Sikkim and Member Secretary, Sikkim SLSA with the Remand Advocates was held on 27th March, 2017 in the Conference Hall of Sikkim SLSA.

The meeting was convened in order to revise/enhance the fees of Remand Advocates and to deliberate on the problems faced by them.

Various issues about remand, how legal services can be provided promptly to a person arrested, mode of opposing remands and revision of fees for Remand Advocates were discussed.

The following Remand Advocates were present in the meeting:

East District

1. Mr. Devi Prasad Sharma
2. Mr. Ashok Pradhan
3. Mr. Sonam Palden Bhutia
4. Mr. Sunil Baraily
5. Mr. Tsewang Namgyal Bhutia
6. Mr. William Tamang
7. Mr. R.C. Sharma

North District

1. Ms. Mirmir Lepcha
2. Ms. Chenga Doma Bhutia
3. Ms. Nisha Rajliwal
4. Mr. Sonam Gyamtso Bhutia

South District

1. Mr. Sandeep Rai

West District

1. Ms. Puja Lamichaney
2. Ms. Rekha Subba
3. Ms. Sabita Sharma



Meeting in progress

MEETING TO REVIEW PROGRESS OF AWARENESS PROGRAMMES ON NALSA (VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING AND COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION) SCHEME, 2015

A meeting to review the progress of awareness programmes conducted by Panel Advocates of Sikkim SLSA in various Schools on NALSA (Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation) Scheme, 2015 was held on the 28th March, 2017 in the Conference Hall of Sikkim SLSA. The meeting was chaired by Mr. K.W. Bhutia, Registrar, High Court of Sikkim and Member Secretary, Sikkim SLSA.

The following members of the team were present:

1. Mr. Jorgay Namka, Panel Advocate.
2. Mr. Tashi Raptan Barfungpa, Panel Advocate.
3. Mr. Sonam Palden Bhutia, Panel Advocate.
4. Ms. Karma Yangchen Bhutia, Panel Advocate.

Date and time for holding awareness programmes in different Schools were worked out in tune with the academic calendar of Government Schools.



Meeting in progress

REFRESHER COURSE FOR STUDENT PARA-LEGAL VOLUNTEERS

Refresher Course for the Student Para-Legal Volunteers (previously trained as PLVs on 20th & 21st August, 2016) was organized by Sikkim SLSA during the month of March, 2017 in the Moot Hall of Sikkim Government Law College, Burtuk, East Sikkim.

The sessions were scheduled as under:

Sl. No.	Date	Topics Covered	Resource Persons (Panel Advocates/Advocate)
1.	04.03.2017	Sikkim Anti Drugs Act, 2006 and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012	Mr. Tashi Rapten Barfungpa and Mr. Sonam Palden Bhutia.
2.	11.03.2017	Registration of Marriage with Divorce and Maintenance	Mr. Zangpo Sherpa and Mrs. Laxmi Chakraborty.
3.	25.03.2017	MACT and Laws pertaining to Consumer Rights.	Mr. Rahul Rathi and Mr. Umesh Ranpal.



Mr. Tashi Rapten Barfungpa, Advocate



Mr. Sonam Palden Bhutia, Advocate



Mr. Zangpo Sherpa, Advocate



Mrs. Laxmi Chakraborty, Advocate



Mr. Rahul Rathi



Mr. Umesh Ranpal, Advocate

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

HIGH COURT LOK ADALAT:

High Court Lok Adalat was held on 18.02.2017 in the office of Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, Development Area, Gangtok. It was presided over by Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.P. Subba, former Judge, High Court of Sikkim along with Mr. T.R. Poudyal and Mrs. Geeta Gurung as “Other Persons” wherein 05 cases were taken up.

High Court Lok Adalat was held on 11.03.2017 in the office of Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, Development Area, Gangtok. It was presided over by Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.P. Subba, former Judge, High Court of Sikkim along with Mr. Kiran Kumar Rasaily and Ms. Yangchen Ladingpa as “Other Persons” wherein 12 cases were taken up and one disposed of.

High Court Lok Adalat was held on 21.03.2017 in the office of Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, Development Area, Gangtok. It was presided over by Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.P. Subba, former Judge, High Court of Sikkim along with Mr. T.R. Poudyal and Mrs. Meena Rani Mukhia as “Other Persons” wherein 06 cases were taken up and two disposed of.



High Court Lok Adalat in progress

MONTHLY LOK ADALAT :

National Lok Adalat was held on 11.02.2017 relating to Criminal Compoundable Offences, NI Act under section 138, Bank Recovery Cases, MACT Cases, Matrimonial Disputes, Labour Dispute Cases, Land Acquisition Cases, Electricity & Water bill (excluding theft), Services matters relating to pay and allowances and retiral benefits, Revenue Cases, other Civil Cases and other Cases. 127 cases were taken up wherein 51 cases were successfully settled. Total amount awarded was ₹78,46,340/-

Statistics of cases disposed of during the National Lok Adalat, are as follows:

- (i) Court of District & Sessions Judge, East at Gangtok:
- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|----------|
| No. of cases taken up | : | 09 |
| No. of cases settled | : | 02 |
| Amount Awarded | : | ₹2,500/- |

- (ii) Court of District & Sessions Judge, Special Division-II, East at Gangtok:
 No. of cases taken up : 54
 No. of cases settled : 14
 Amount Awarded : ₹16,92,985/-
- (iii) Court of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate, East at Gangtok:
 No. of cases taken up : 10
 No. of cases settled : 01
 Amount Awarded : ₹16,000/-
- (iv) Court of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate, Sub-Division Chungthang, North at Mangan:
 No. of cases taken up : 01
 No. of cases settled : 01
 Amount Awarded : ₹3,50,000/-
- (v) Court of District & Sessions Judge, South at Namchi:
 No. of cases taken up : 07
 No. of cases settled : 06
 Amount Awarded : ₹6,27,000/-
- (vi) Court of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate, South at Namchi:
 No. of cases taken up : 23
 No. of cases settled : 07
 Amount Awarded : ₹6,68,000/-
- (vii) Court of District & Sessions Judge, West at Gyalshing:
 No. of cases taken up : 05
 No. of cases settled : 04
 Amount Awarded : ₹7,00,666/-
- (viii) Court of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate, West at Gyalshing:
 No. of cases taken up : 18
 No. of cases settled : 16
 Amount Awarded : ₹37,89,189/-

LOK ADALATS AT THE DISTRICT AND TALUK LEVELS FROM JANUARY TO MARCH, 2017

DISTRICT LOK ADALAT, EAST AT GANGTOK

No. of Lok Adalat held	Previous Pending	No. of cases received	Total	No. of cases settled	No. of cases returned	No. of cases pending
07	06	158	164	33	05	126

DISTRICT LOK ADALAT, SOUTH AT NAMCHI

No. of Lok Adalat held	Previous Pending	No. of cases received	Total	No. of cases settled	No. of cases returned	No. of cases pending
07	06	67	73	55	06	12

DISTRICT LOK ADALAT, WEST AT GYALSHING

No. of Lok Adalat held	Previous Pending	No. of cases received	Total	No. of cases settled	No. of cases returned	No. of cases pending
05	06	16	22	07	03	12

TALUK LOK ADALAT, NORTH AT CHUNGTHANG

No. of Lok Adalat held	Previous Pending	No. of cases received	Total	No. of cases settled	No. of cases returned	No. of cases pending
02	04	Nil	04	01	03	Nil

TALUK LOK ADALAT, SOUTH AT RAVANGLA

No. of Lok Adalat held	Previous Pending	No. of cases received	Total	No. of cases settled	No. of cases returned	No. of cases pending
11	04	39	43	14	18	11

TALUK LOK ADALAT, WEST AT GYALSHING

No. of Lok Adalat held	Previous Pending	No. of cases received	Total	No. of cases settled	No. of cases returned	No. of cases pending
13	09	27	36	34	01	01

TALUK LOK ADALAT, WEST AT SORENG

No. of Lok Adalat held	Previous Pending	No. of cases received	Total	No. of cases settled	No. of cases returned	No. of cases pending
08	08	10	18	13	-	05

LEGAL AID

Legal aid was provided to 240 beneficiaries by the Sikkim State Legal Services Authority during the quarter January to March, 2017.

Categories of beneficiaries are as under:

Month	S.C.	S.T.	Women	Child	Under Trial/ detained by custody	General	Disabled	Others	Total
January to March, 2017	10	14	65	05	106	30	1	9	240

CASES BEFORE THE MEDIATION CENTRES, EAST DISTRICT AT GANGTOK, SOUTH DISTRICT AT NAMCHI AND WEST AT GYALSHING FROM JANUARY TO MARCH, 2017

Centre	No. of Mediations held	No. of cases taken up	No. of cases settled	No. of cases returned	No. of cases pending
Mediation Centre (East) at District Court Complex, Sichey, Gangtok	69	47	20	12	15
Mediation Centre (South) at District Courts Complex, Namchi, South Sikkim	18	15	04	08	13
Mediation Centre (West) at Civil Court Complex, Gyalshing, West Sikkim	11	06	03	02	01

MICRO LEGAL LITERACY AND MGNREGA CAMPS

CONDUCTED BY	DATE	VENUE
DLSA/TLSC, East at Gangtok	03.02.2017	Churibotay Sakukhani Govt. Primary School and Rangpo.
	08.03.2017	Working Women's Hostel, Deorali.
	10.03.2017	Directorate of Handicraft & Handloom Department, Gangtok.
DLSA/TLSC, North at Mangan & Chungthang Sub-Division.	16.02.2017	Singhik.
	11.02.2017	Pakshep.
	17.02.2017	Manul.
	31.03.2017	Upper Zimchung, Mangan.

CONDUCTED BY	DATE	VENUE
DLSA/TLSC, South at Namchi	04.02.2017	Upper Mamley.
	23.02.2017	Rong Bul.
	09.03.2017	Kamerey Jr. High School, Kamerey.
	10.03.2017	Lungchok.
DLSA/TLSC, West at Gyalshing & Soreng Sub-Division.	18.02.2017	Lower Onglop and Kabirthang.
	21.02.2017	Ribdi Government Sr. Sec. School.
	26.02.2017	Jhakri Dunga.
	08.03.2017	Singling G.P.U., Soreng.
	15.03.2017	Labing.
	25.03.2017	Chingthang.



Directorate of Handicraft & Handloom Deptt., Gangtok, East Sikkim



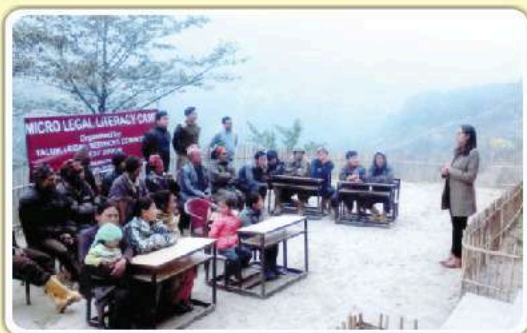
Upper Zimchung, North Sikkim



Kamerey Jr. High School, South Sikkim



Chingthang, West Sikkim



Jhakri Dunga, West Sikkim



Ribdi Gout. Sr. Sec. School, Soreng Sub-Division, West Sikkim