

## **3 DAY TRAINING FOR EMPANELLED LAWYERS HELD AT DIMAPUR, NAGALAND**

32 lawyers representing all districts of Nagaland empanelled with the Nagaland State Legal Services Authority (NSLSA) underwent a 3 days training on sensitization to render legal assistance to the vulnerable sections of the society. As part of the integral project “Access to Justice in 8 states in the Northeast India including Sikkim and Jammu and Kashmir” a well arranged 8 months long programme namely “Training & Sensitization of 400 lawyers empanelled with the Legal Services Authorities of 8 states of NE including Sikkim” has been visualized by the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, Govt. of India. In partnership with NSLSA, LCHR organized a 3-day training beginning at 10 a.m. on March 20 and the same training concluded at 4.30 p.m. on March 22, 2015 at Hotel Acacia, Dimapur.



Mr. Justice H.K. Sema, Former Judge Supreme Court of India (Centre), Mr. Kesonyu Yhome, IAS, Deputy Commissioner Dimapur Nagaland (right) & Mr. Ravi Sagar, Director LCHR (left) are at the Inaugural Function.

Training began with inaugural function at 10.30 a.m. in Conference Hall, Hotel Acacia, Dimapur, Nagaland. District & Session Judge Dimapur, Mr. Neiko Kanuo, welcomed the dignitaries and felicitated them.

Speaking on the purpose of the training, Mr. Ravi Sagar Director of LCHR said, “This training is to strengthen the weakest – vulnerable sections of the society”. He added, “Legal service to the people poor and the marginalized is not a charity but it is a constitutional right backed up by judicial pronouncements and legislative enactments. Therefore empanelled advocates have the constitutional duty to fulfil”.

In his inaugural address, Mr. Kesonyu Yhome IAS, DC Dimapur, said, “Over the years entitlement given to the citizens have seen erosion. This is an area need to be addressed quickly”. He reiterated, “Access to justice has been largely deprived to the weaker sections of the society”. He called upon the learned members to rededicate themselves so that the deprived have access to justice.

Speaking on the occasion Hon’ble Mr. Justice H. K. Sema, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India said, “Human Rights violation has taken place in the remote areas of our country. Justice being an essential commodity has not reaching to those areas. Hence go to the rural area to be the voice of the voiceless”.



Trainees attentively listening in a participatory session on Rights and legislative protections of women, Children, The aged, People with disabilities, etc.

To conclude the inaugural session, Ms. Felcita D' Souza Programme Coordinator, LCHR proposed the vote of thanks to the guests. While interacting in the introductory session she presented the entire 8 month long programme and all activities connected with it.

Discussions and deliberations on various topics such as legal aid as a Fundamental Right, Function, strength and challenge of Nagaland State Legal Services Authority, Rights and legislative protections of women, Children, The aged, People with disabilities, etc. took place. Civil and Criminal Procedure with relevant laws with special reference to vulnerable sections and weaker sections, Skill Development Tools for the empanelled advocates along with professional ethics was emphasized.



Group discussion in Progress

Ms. Esther K. Aye, Advocate, Dimapur highlighted the provisions in NSLSA, its function, strength and challenges. Ravi Sagar substantiated that legal aid and legal service is a fundamental by highlighting its provision in the Constitution of India, various judicial pronouncements and legislative enactment such as The National Legal Services Act.

Mr. Joshua Sheqi, Advocate, KDLSA and Mr. Pranab Sharma Advocate, Gauhati High Court dealt with Civil and Criminal

procedures with relevant laws with special reference to vulnerable and weaker sections of the society.

By engaging in group discussion and presentation with the participants, Mr. Ravi Sagar summed up the rights and legislative protections available for women, children, the aged, persons with disabilities.



Trainees make presentation of the group discussion findings.

As resource person on the topic “Professional Ethics, Code of Conduct and Sensitivity” Mr. V. Ashu Theyo, Advocate KDLSA made his presentation highlighting the duty of advocates towards the court, the client, the opponent and the colloquies. He urged the participants to live up to the ideals of this learned profession. He also dealt with “Skill Development Tools for the empanelled advocates”. Through the role play method he revealed to the participants the fine difference between mediation and conciliation.

The trainees had an exposure visit to Deaf Biblical Ministry – School for the Deaf, Dimapur, Nagaland which was founded by Mr. & Mrs. Yanger Wallings in 1987. The Deaf Biblical Ministry is a special institute for the hearing impaired, the first of its kind in Nagaland.

After the visit and interaction with the management and the inmates, trainee joined together to share their experience. While sharing his experience Mr. James said, “For me it has been an enriching experience to visit the differently abled children”. Another participant expressed that she has been emotionally touched by this exposure and she also realized that how perfectly God has created her. “We should go to them” said another trainee “Sensitizing their parents on the rights of persons with disabilities is also important”. “We must have creative and constructive ways to help them”.



Trainees with the staff and students at School for the Deaf – Deaf Biblical Ministry, Dimapur.

Strategy and action plan evaluation of the training took place before the concluding ceremony. The concluding ceremony was graced by the Mr. Ajognba Imchen, JMFC, Member Secretary Peren District LSA. He said the change of attitude is an important factor for the empanelled lawyers to reach the unreachable and provide legal service to the poor and the vulnerable sections of the society. Mr. James Yalie, Advocate shared his experience and said, “I am fortunate to attend this training. Exposure visit was enriching and I have benefitted especially from it. It is my conviction that I must do something for these differently abled”.

Ms. Aasangla Chang, Advocate, said that it was interesting and wonderful experience for her. She learnt a lot from the 3 day training. “It was a spiritual renewal to be committed and sincere as panel lawyer.” “Now I am definitely can organize mediation and conciliation in a better way”. Mr. Ravi Sagar, the team leader proposed vote of thanks for all those responsible for the success of the training including the participants.



Trainees with Mr. Kesonyu Yhome, IAS, Deputy Commissioner Dimapur Nagaland (right), Mr. Justice H.K. Sema, Former Judge Supreme Court of India (2<sup>nd</sup> from Right), Mr. Pranab Sharma Mr. Pranab Sharma Advocate, Gauhati High Court & Mr. Ravi Sagar, Director LCHR (left) are at the Inaugural Function.

#### **NEWS REPORTS:**

##### **TRAINING & SENSITIZATION PROGRAMME FOR EMPANELLED LAWYERS WITH NSLSA IN MORUNG EXPRESS**

<http://morungexpress.com/training-sensitization-programme-for-empanelled-lawyers-with-nslsa/>

##### **LCHR TRAINING FOR THE ENPANELLED LAWYERS IN NAGALAND POST**

<http://www.nagalandpost.com/channelnews/state/StateNews.aspx?news=TkVXUzEwMDA3NzMyOA%3D%3D>

##### **LAWYERS ASKED TO ENSURE ‘ACCESS TO JUSTICE’ IN NAGALAND POST**

<http://www.nagalandpost.com/ChannelNews/State/StateNews.aspx?news=TkVXUzEwMDA3NzM4NQ%3D%3D>

##### **LAWYERS URGED TO CURB VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS – MORUNG EXPRESS**

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