

NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY (NALSA)

PROPOSES AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS AND SCHEMES OF NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY (NALSA)

- NALSA (Lok Adalats) Regulations, 2009
- NALSA (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulations, 2010
- NALSA (Legal Aid Clinic) Regulations, 2011
- Schemes for Para Legal Volunteers (Revised)

In the Meeting of Central Authority - NALSA
Saturday 9th April, 2016 (11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.)
on the occasion of 14th All India Meet of SLSAs (9-10 April, 2016), at Hydrabad
Organised by Telangana State Legal Services Authority

A FEW SUGGESTIONS PROPOSED BY JHARKHAND STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY (JHALSA)

NYAYA SADAN, Near A.G. Office, Doranda, Ranchi Phone: 0651-2481520, 2482392, Fax: 0651-2482397

Email: jhalsaranchi@gmail.com Website: www.jhalsa.org

NALSA (Lok Adalat) Regulations, 2009

		Existing Provisions	Amendments proposed		Justific	ation	
2.		initions. - In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise uires, –	by NALSA		by NA	LSA	
	(a)	'Act' means the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 (39 of 1987)	1. Amendment to Regulation 2 –(1) After clause (b) the following clause shall be added:	and F	e-litigation matter has n Rules. Hence, it is require Imbiguity		
	(b)	'Lok Adalats' means Lok Adalats to be organized under Section 19 of the Act.	"(b)(a) Pre-litigation matter means a dispute between the parties which has not yet come up before the court but settlement of which in the Lok	arry c	imbiguity		
	(c)	all other words and expressions used but not defined in these regulations and defined in the Legal Services Author- ities Act, 1987 (39 of 1987) or the National Legal Services	Adalat, would result in an executable decree in terms of Section 21 of the Act."				
		Authority Rules, 1995 shall have the meaning respectively assigned to them in the said Act or rules.	by JHALSA Instead of above proposed amendment, JHALSA proposes to insert Sub Regulations		by JH Annever Lok-Adalat is orga	nized, invai	
			2(d), 2(e) and 2(f) as under A new clause 2 (d) is suggested to be introduced as under:	appr	the aggrieved, poor a oach to Lok Adalat for re cularly services guara	edressal of	their grievances
			2(d) Pre-litigation matters are defined for the purpose of this Regulation in two fold as under:-		otified by t I Services I	hem. Thus such nstitutions then	
			(i) 'Pre litigation Dispute in Lok Adalat' means dispute between the parties which has not yet come up before the Court, but the settlement of which in the Lok Adalat would result in the executable decree in terms of Sec. 21 of Act.	othe * for	natter may be referred to rwise same may to go to example following state ces Act	Court of L	aw in litigation.
			(ii) 'Pre litigation Services in Lok Adalat' means the matter brought before the Lok Adalat by the aggrieved party for the redressal of his or her grievance, which is enforceable by Right to Services as notified by	No.	Title of the Act	State	Date of Implementa- tion
			Governments and if not resolved, would have a potential to go into litigation by the aggrieved party for enforcement.	1	Madhya Pradesh Lok Sewaon Ke Pradan Ki Guarantee Adhiniyam	Madhya Pradesh	August 18, 2010
				2	Uttar Pradesh Janhit Guarantee Adhyadesh	Uttar Pradesh	January 13, 2011
				3	Delhi Right of Citizen to Time Bound Delivery of Services Act, 2011	Delhi	April 03, 2011
				4	The Jammu and Kashmir Public Services Guarantee Act, 2011	Jammu and Kashmir	April 13, 2011

Existing Provisions	Amendments proposed		Justific	ation	
		5	Bihar Right to Public Services Act, 2011	Bihar	August 15, 2011
		6	The Rajasthan Guaranteed Delivery of Public Services Act, 2011	Rajasthan	September 21, 2011
		7	Uttarakhand Right to Service Act, 2011	Uttara- khand	October 04, 2011
		8	Himachal Pradesh Public Services Guarantee Act, 2011	Himachal Pradesh	October 17, 2011
		9	Punjab Right to Service Act, 2011	Punjab	October 20, 2011
	Secondly a new clause 2 (e) is suggested to be introduced as under:	10	Jharkhand Right to Service Act, 2011	Jharkhand	November 15, 2011
	Regulation 2(e)- Presiding Judge means any sitting or Retd. Judge of a High Court or serving or Retd. Judicial Officer or Presiding Officer of Tribunal or other Judicial or Quasi Judicial Forum presiding over the Lok Adalat Bench provided such presiding officer of Tribunal or other judicial or quasi judicial Forum must be a serving or retired Judicial Officer in tune with section 19(2)(a) of Legal Services Authorities Act ,1987.	in the Presi sepa	ding Judge is not define e Regulation, whereas, t ding Judge and Memb rately vide NALSA's prop ent Regulation by Amen	the honorar pers of Lok posed Regul	ium is fixed for Adalat Bench lation 6A in the
	Finally a clause 2 (f) is suggested to be introduced as under:				
	Regulation 2(f) A Continuous Lok Adalat means the Lok Adalat established u/s . 19 of the Act on continuous basis.	mind Its tr every need More Code Medi reaso	a period of time Lok Ada ls of the litigants across ustworthiness attracts r next Lok Adalat. It is to based Lok Adalat functi eover section 89 read w of Civil Procedure providation, Conciliation, Arbitra on also a Lok Adalat function of the hour.	all the sect more and m he call of th oning on co ith Order X des for referent ation and Lo	nions of society. In ore litigants in the hour to have ontinuous basis. Rule 1A of the tence of cases to k Adalat. For this

	Existing Provisions		Amendments proposed	Justification
6. Co	mposition of Lok Adalat		by NALSA	by NALSA
(a)	 (a) At State Authority Level The Member Secretary Organising the Lok Adalat shall constitute benches of the Lok Adalat, each bench comprising of a sitting or retired Judge of the High Court or a serving or retired judicial officer and any one or both of the following: 	2. Am	endment to Regulation 6 –	Lok Adalat are also held for the cases pending before various tribunals etc.
		(1)	In sub-para (a), after the words "judicial officer" the words "or presiding officer of tribunal or other judicial of quasi-judicial forum" shall be inserted.	In the Lok Adalat on a particular subject matter, the
	(i) a member from the legal profession; and	(2)	In sub-para (a), in place of the word "both", the word "two" shall be insterd.	presence of an expert of related field is helpful.
	(ii) a social worker of repute who is engaged in the uplift-	(3)	After item (ii) of sub-para (a), the following shall be inserted :	
	ment of the weaker sections of the people, including the Scheduled Castes, thge Scheduled Tribes, wom-		"(iii) a professional from or related to the field of subject matter of the Lok Adalat."	
	en, children, rural and urban labour and interested schemes or programmes. At High Corut Level - The Secretary of the High Court Legal Services Committee organizing the Lok Adalat shall consti-	(4)	In sub-para (b), after the words "judicial officer" the words "or presiding officer of tribunal or other judicial or quasi-judicial forum" shall be inserted.	
(b)		(5)	In sub-para (b), in place of the words "both", the word "two" shall be inserted.	
	tute benches of the Lok Adalat, each bench comprising of a sitting or retired Judge of the High Court or a serving or	(6)	After item (ii) of sub-para (b) the following shall be inserted:	
	retired Judicial Officer and any one or both of the following:		"(iii) a professional as mentioned in item (iii) of sub-para (a) above."	
	(i) a member from the legal profession;	(7)	(1) In sub-para (c), after the words "judicial officer" the words "or presiding	
	(ii) a social worker belonging to the category as mentioned in item (ii) of sub-para (a) above.		officer of tribunal or other judicial or quasi-judicial forum" shall be inserted.	
(c)	At District Level. — The Secretary of the District Authority organising the Lok Adalats shall constitute benches of the Lok Adalats, each bench comprising of a sitting or retired judicial officer and any one or both of the following:	(8)	In sub-para (c), in place of the word "both", the word "two" shall be inserted.	
		(9)	After item (ii) of sub-para (c) the following shall be inserted:	
			"(iii) a professional as mentioned in item (iii) of sub-para (a) above."	
		(10)	In sub-para (d), after the words "judicial officer" the words "or presiding officer of tribunal or other judicial or quasi-judicial forum" shall be inserted.	
		(11)	In sub-para (d), in place of the word "both", the word "two" shall be inserted.	
		(12)	After item (ii) of sub-para (d) the following shall be inserted:	
			"(iii) a professional as mentioned in item (iii) of sub-para (a) above."	

Existing Provisions	Amendments proposed	Justification
(i) a member from the legal profession;	by JHALSA	by JHALSA
(ii) a social worker belonging to the category as mentioned in item (ii) of sub-para (a) above or a person engaged in para-legal activities of the area, preferably a woman.	Amendment to Regulation 6- In 6(a) the word 'comprising of' shall be substituted by the word 'shall be presided by'.	Section 19(2)(a) of the Legal Services Authorities Act 1987 mandates that one of the members must be a serving or retired Judicial Officer.
(d) At Taluk Level. — The Chairman of the Taluk Legal Services Committee organising the Lok Adalat shall constitute benches of the Lok Adalat, each bench comprising of a sitting or retired judicial officer and any one or both of the following:	Each Bench shall be presided by (<i>in place of "comprising of"</i>) a Sitting or Retired Judge of the High Court or serving or Retd. Judicial Officer or Presiding Officer of the Tribunal or other Quasi Judicial Forum (provided he or she must be a serving or retired Judicial Officer) shall be inserted.	
	Similarly consequential amendments be made by substituting in provisions 6(b), 6(c) and 6(d) Apart from the above a new regulation 6(a) (iv) is proposed by JHALSA as under: Regulation 6(a)(iv)	Every Month National Lok Adalat is organised on specified Subject matter, for example on 9/4/2016 National Lok Adalat is to be organised for Labour and Family Matters therefore an expert of the subject matter will be highly useful as a member.
	(iv) A specialized Mediator who are Experts, Professionals, Retd. Senior Bureaucrats, Retd. Senior Executives within the meaning of Rule 5(c) of Mediation Rules, 2015.	Lok Adalat he or she can use art of Mediation in resolving the disputes of the parties on the basis of
	Similarly consequential amendments shall be made by inserting new Sub Regulations 6(b)(iv), 6(c)(iv), 6(d)(iv).	compromises and settlement in an amicable manner more efficiently and more effectively.
	by NALSA	by NALSA
may be fixed by the concerned State Legal Services Authority, if th day.	Regulation shall be inserted: s, Members and staff assisting the Lok Adalat shall be paid Special Duty Allowance as the Lok Adalat is organised on a holiday or organised beyond court hours on a working the allowance recommended by the National Legal Services Authority."	In the Central Authority meeting held on 17.9.2015, it was resolved that the Presiding Judge, Members and staff of the Lok Adalat will be paid Special Duty Allowance for a Lok Adalat organised on a holiday.

	Existing Provisions	Amendments proposed	Justification
10.	Reference of cases and matters — (1) Lok Adalat shall get jurisdiction to deal with a case only when a court of competent jurisdiction orders the case to be referred in the manner prescribed in section 20 of the Act or under section 89 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908).	by NALSA 4. Amendment to Regulation 10 - (1) After clause (1), the following clause shall'be inserted:	by NALSA Reference of Pre-litigation matters has not been provided. Hence, it is required to insert this clause.
	(2) A mechanical reference of pending cases to Lok Adalat shall be avoided and the referring court shall, prima facie satisfy itself that there are chances of settlement of the case through Lok Adalat and the case is appropriate to be referred to Lok Adalat:	"(1A) A Pre-litigation matter may be referred to the Lok Adalat by the concerned Legal Services Institution on the request of any of the parties. by JHALSA	by JHALSA
	Provided that matters relating to divorce and criminal cases which are not compoundable under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974) shall not be referred to Lok Adalat.	The proposed amendment of NALSA as Regulation 10 (1A) may be inserted more suitably in Regulation 12 as Regulation 12(4) instead of Regulation 10.	Cases of pre-litigation and Reference thereof has come in Regulation 12 and therefore the introduction of New Provision with respect to Pre-litigation matter appears
	(3) In a pending case where only one of the parties had made application to the court for referring the case to Lok Adalat, or where the court suo motu is satisfied that the case is appropriate to take cognizance by Lok Adalat, the case shall not be referred to the Lok Adalat except after giving a reasonable opportunity of being heard to the parties.	Further, apart from the above JHALSA proposes to insert a new Regulation 10(4) as under: Regulation 10(4)- Need based Continuous Lok Adalat may be constituted under section 19 of the Legal Services Authorities Act 1987 by the Legal Services Institutions in order to make the reference of pending cases u/s. 89 of CPC timely.	Continuous Lok Adalat is the call of the hour. Usually Lok Adalats are held on a fix date in a month or periodically whereas under section 89 of CPC or otherwise suitable matters come up daily before the Courts which may be referred to Lok Adalat. Therefore, Lok Adalat to be functional on continuous basis is the urgent requirement for quality, responsive & timely justice.
		Further JHALSA also proposes a new provision as 12(5). Regulation 12(5) Pre litigation matter if resolved through Mediation or Conciliation or Counseling in the Legal Services Institutions on the basis of compromise and settlement between parties, the same may be referred to the Lok Adalat for drawing Award to have force of law.	Settlement of pre-litigation matter through Mediation or Conciliation or Counseling has no binding nature and its enforceability, unless an award from Lok Adalat is made in order to make the settlement binding at prelitigation stage.

		Existing Provisions	Amendments proposed	Justification
		NALSA (Free	and Competent Legal Services) Regulations,	2010
2.		initions (1) In these regulations, unless the context othere requires, -	by NALSA	by NALSA
	(a) (b)	"Act" means the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 (39 of 1987); "Form" means a Form annexed to these Regulations;	 Amendment to Section 2 In sub-regulation (1), after clause (ea), the following clause shall be inserted: 	It is proposed to depute Remand Advocates in all Magistrate's Courts and in Sessions Courts where remand proceedings are conducted. Hence, it is
	(c)	"front office" means a room in the Legal Services Institution where legal services are made available;	"(eb) "Remand Advocate" means a panel lawyer designated as the Remand Advocate under sub-regulation (5A) of regulation 8"	necessary to define Remand Advocate.
	(d)	"legal practitioner" shall have the meaning assigned to it in clause (i) of section 2 of the Advocates Act, 1961 (25 of 1961);		by JHALSA Such Remand Advocates should be deputed in all Courts, whether Magistrate's Courts, Session Courts
	(e)	"Legal Services Institution" means the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee, a State Legal Services Authori- ty, the High Court Legal Services Committee, District Legal Services Authority or the Taluk Legal Services Committee, as the case may be;		or Special Courts where Remand proceeding are conducted.
	(ea)	"Panel Lawyer" means a legal practitioner empanelled as a Panel Lawyer under regulation 8;	by JHALSA Apart from the above, JHALSA proposes Amendments by substituting	by JHALSA Existing definition requires clarification. Because
	(f)	"Para-Legal Volunteer" means a para-legal volunteer trained as such by a Legal Services Institution;	Regulation 2 (f) as follows Para Legal Volunteer means a person trained as Para Legal Volunteer under the NAL-	only a trained person under PLV Scheme of NALSA by Legal Services Institution is PLV and none else.
	(fa)	"Retainer Lawyer" means a Panel Lawyer designated as the Retainer Lawyer under sub-regulation (6) of regulation 8;	SA Revised Scheme for Para Legal Volunteers, by the Legal Services Institutions.	
	(g)	$\hbox{``Secretary''} means the Secretary of the Legal Services Institution;\\$		
	(h)	"section" means the section of the Act;		
	(i)	"State regulation" means regulation made by the State Authorities under the Act.		
(2)		other words and expressions used but not defined in these ulations shall have the same meanings assigned to them in Act.		

	Existing Provisions	Amendments proposed	Justification
4.	Legal Services Institution to have a front office. - (1) All Legal Services Institutions shall have a front office to be manned by one or more para¬legal volunteers available during office hours.	 by NALSA Amendment to Regulation 4 - The sub-regulation (2) of regulation 4 shall be omitted. 	by NALSA It is proposed to abolish the Committee constituted under Regulation 7.
	Provided that persons with the qualification of Masters degree in Social Work or Diploma or Masters' degree in psychiatry or psychology from any recognised institute or university may also be called to the front office as and when necessary.		
	(2) In the case of court based legal services, services of a panel lawyer or retainer lawyer may be provided and such lawyer shall, after considering the application, forward the same to the Committee constituted under regulation 7.		
5.	Proof of entitlement of free legal services. (1) An affidavit of the applicant that he falls under the categories of persons entitled to free legal services under section 12 shall ordinarily be sufficient.	(1) The sub-regulation (1) shall be substituted as under:	by NALSA The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Administrative Reforms has recently issued a policy regarding abolition of affidavits
	(2) The affidavit may be signed before a Judge, Magistrate, Notary Public, Advocate, Member of Parliament, Member of Legislative Assembly, elected representative of local bodies, Gazetted Officer, teacher of any school or college of Central Government, State Government or local bodies as the case may be.	 "(1) a' self-certificate of the applicant, along with self-attested copy of relevant documents/certificates, that he falls under the categories of persons entitled to free legal services under Section 12 of the Act shall ordinarily be sufficient." (2) The sub-regulation (2) and sub-regulation (3) shall be deleted. 	abolish the requirement of affidavit.
	(3) The affidavit may be prepared on plain paper and it shall bear the seal of the person attesting it.		

	Existing Provisions	Amendments proposed	Justification
'•	Scrutiny and evaluation of the application for free legal services. - (1) There shall be a Committee to scrutinise and evaluate the application for legal services, to be constituted by the Legal Services Institution at the level of Taluk, District, State and above.	by NALSA 4. Amendment to Regulation 7 -	by NALSA It is felt that scrutiny of each application by the Committee may only result in delay in providing of lega
	(2) The Committee shall be constituted by the Executive Chairman or Chairman of the Legal Services Institution and shall consist of, -(i) the Member Secretary or Secretary of the Legal Services Institution as its Chairman and two members out of whom one may be a Judicial Officer preferably having working experience in the Legal Services Institution and; (ii) a legal professional having at least fifteen years' standing at the Bar or Government pleader or Assistant Government Pleader or Public Prosecutor, as the case may be.	 (1) The sub-regulation (1) shall be substituted as under: "(1) The application for legal services shall be scrutinised by the Member Secretary or Secretary, as the case may be, or any officer, deputed by him, for eligibility of the applicant and merit of the case that the applicant has a prima facie case to prosecute or to defend. The Member Secretary or Secretary may for this purpose, seek opinion from a panel lawyer having more than 7 years of practice." (2) The sub-regulations (2) to (4) shall be omitted. 	services to the eligible persons. If in a particular matter another opinion is required, the Member Secretary o the Secretary may seek opinion from an experienced lawyer.
	(3) The tenure of the members of the Committee shall ordinarily be two years which may be further extended for a maximum period of one year and the Member Secretary or Secretary of the Legal Services Institution shall, however, continue as the ex-officio Chairman of the Committee.	by JHALSA In addition to above JHALSA proposes following Amendments: (3) In sub-regulation (7), in place of the word "Committee", the words "Member Secretary or Secretary, as the case may be," shall be inserted.	by JHALSA District Legal Aid Committee has been proposed to be abolished therefore under sub-regulation 7 also same i required to be amended
	(4) The Committee shall scrutinise and evaluate the application and decide whether the applicant is entitled to the legal services or not within a period of eight weeks from the date of receipt of the application.	(4) After sub-regulation (7) the following sub-regulation shall be inserted:	If an applicant expresses a choice of panel advocate,
	(5) If the applicant is not covered under the categories mentioned in section 12, he or she shall be advised to seek assistance from any other body or person rendering free legal services either voluntarily or under any other scheme.	"(8) In case the Member Secretary or Secretary of the Legal Services Institution decides to provide legal services through a panel lawyer, the choice of the panel lawyer, if expressed by the applicant, shall be considered."	should not be denied to ensure trust and confidence of the applicant.
	(6) The Legal Services Institution shall maintain a list of such agencies, institutions or persons who have expressed will- ingness to render free legal services.	(5) Regulation 7 (4) after omission shall be substituted as under: The application for legal services shall be scrutinized and decided by the	A time limit should be provided to ensure quick lega service as earlier it was 8 weeks time for the committee
	(7) Any person aggrieved by the decision or order of the Committee, he or she may prefer appeal to the Executive Chairman or Chairman of the Legal Services Institution and the decision or order in appeal shall be final.	Member Secretary or Secretary, as the case may be, or any other officer deputed by him, as early as possible preferably within a week from the date of receipt of application.	

	Existing Provisions	Amendments proposed	Justification
8.	Selection of legal practitioners as panel lawyers	by NALSA	by NALSA
	(1) Every Legal Services Institution shall invite applications from legal practitioners for their empanelment as panel lawyers and such applications shall be accompanied with proof of the professional experience with special reference to the type of cases which the applicant-legal practitioners may prefer to be entrusted with.	 Amendment to Regulation 8 - (1) The sub-regulation (2) shall be substituted with the following: "(2) The applications received under sub-regulation (1) shall be scrutinise and selection of the panel lawyers shall be made by the Executive Chairma or Chairman of the Legal Services Institution through a Committee consistence. 	n The amendment proposed would enable the Legal
	(2) The applications received under sub-regulation (1) shall be scrutinised and selection of the panel lawyers shall be made by the Executive Chairman or Chairman of the Legal Services Institution in consultation with the Attorney-General (for the Supreme Court), Advocate-General (for the High Court), District Attorney or Government Pleader (for the District and Taluk level) and the respective Presidents of the Bar Associations as the case may be.	ing of such members as the Executive Chairman or Chairman deems fit be shall include a representative of the concerned Bar and the Member Secretary or Secretary of the concerned Legal Services Institution." (2) After sub-regulation (5), the following new sub-regulations shall be inserted "(5A) The Legal Services Institutions shall depute Remand Advocates, out the panel lawyers, in all the courts of Magistrates and in such of the Session Courts as deemed fit, to give legal assistance to the persons in custody, for o	unrepresented under trial prisoners from the stage of 1st remand itself. The honorarium payable to the Retainer Lawyers was fixed in the year 2010. Hence, it is necessary to enhance the same keeping in view the inflation.
	(3) No legal practitioner having less than three years' experience at the Bar shall ordinarily be empanelled.	posing remand applications, pursuing application for bail and moving such miscellaneous applications as may be required. The Remand Advocates shall be paid honorarium as determined by the State Legal Services Authority."	
	(4) While preparing the panel of lawyers the competence, in- tegrity, suitability and experience of such lawyers shall be taken into account.	(3) In sub-regulation (9), after the word "shall" the word "not" and after the word "be" the words "less than" shall be inserted.	е
	(5) The Executive Chairman or Chairman of the Legal Services Institution may maintain separate panels for dealing with dif- ferent types of cases like, Civil, Criminal, Constitutional Law, Environmental Law, Labour Laws, Matrimonial disputes etc.	(3) in clauses (a), (b) (c) and (d) of sub-regulation (9) the figures shall k replaced as under:(a) Rs. 12,500/- (b) Rs. 10,000/- (c) Rs. 7,500/- (d) Rs. 5000/-	
	(6) The Chairman of the Legal Services Institution may, in consultation with the Executive Chairman of the State Legal Services Authority or National Legal Services Authority as the case may be prepare a list of legal practitioners from among the panel lawyers to be designated as Retainers.	(4) In sub-regulation (12), in place of the word "Retainer", the words "pan lawyer" shall be substituted.	
	(7) The Retainer lawyers shall be selected for a period fixed by the Executive Chairman on rotation basis or by any other method specified by the Executive Chairman.		

	Existing Provisions	Amendments proposed	Justification
(8)	The strength of Retainer lawyers shall not exceed, -	by JHALSA	by JHALSA
	(a) 20 in the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee;	Apart from the above JHALSA proposes new amendment as under:	To ensure adequate representation of mariginalized
	(b) 15 in the High Court Legal Services Committee;	Regulation 8 (4) (a)- Without compromising with quality and efficiency, an effort	section of society, it is essential to include eligible persons of the category - SC/ST, Women and differently
	(c) 10 in the District Legal Authority;	should be made to ensure adequate representation of SC/ST, Women and differently abled persons in the panel.	abled persons in the panel
	(d) 5 in the Taluk Legal Services Committee.	abled persons in the panel.	
(9)	The honorarium payable to Retainer lawyer shall be, -		
	(a) Rs. 10,000 per month in the case of Supreme Court Legal Services Committee;	Proviso of Regulation 8 (10) need to be discussed in the meeting of Central Authority.	This proviso bars a Panel Lawyer from appearing in his individual capacity in a legal aided case for and on behalf of the party (opposite party to whom has been
	(b) Rs.7,500 per month in the case of High Court Legal Services Committee;		provided Legal Aid)
	(c) Rs.5,000 per month in the case of District Legal Services Authority;		
	(d) Rs.3,000 per month in the case of the Taluk Legal Services Committee:		
	Provided that the honorarium specified in this sub-regulation is in addition to the honorarium or fee payable by the Legal Services Institution for each case entrusted to the Retainer lawyer.		
(10)	The panel lawyer or, as the case may be, the retainer lawyer shall be available to deal with legal aid cases:		
	Provided that such lawyers may take up other briefs, but shall not appear against a party to whom legal aid has been given through the legal services institutions:		
	Provided further that such restriction shall not be applicable where both the parties have availed legal aid.		
(11)	The panel prepared under sub-regulation (2) shall be re-constituted after a period of three years but the cases already entrusted to any panel lawyer shall not be withdrawn from him due to re-constitution of the panel.	JHALSA proposes amendment by inserting Proviso in Regulation 8(11) as under: Provided the Panel prepared under Regulation8 (2) may be reconstituted or modified, as and when the need thereof is felt by the Executive Chairman or Chairman as the	To ensure quality and responsive justice it should always be permissible for Executive Chairman or Chairman to reconstitute and modify the panel as per the need.
(12)	The Legal Services Institution shall be at liberty for with- drawing any case from a Retainer during any stage of the proceedings.	case may be but the cases already entrusted to any panel lawyers shall not be with- drawn.	

	Existing Provisions	Amendments proposed	Justification
	(13) If a panel lawyer is desirous of withdrawing from a case he shall state the reasons thereof to the Member-Secretary or the Secretary and the latter may permit the panel lawyer to do so.		
	(14) The panel lawyer shall not ask for or receive any fee, remuneration or any valuable consideration in any manner, from the person to whom he had rendered legal services under these regulations.		
	(15) If the panel lawyer engaged is not performing satisfactorily or has acted contrary to the object and spirit of the Act and these regulations, the Legal Services Institution shall take appropriate steps including withdrawal of the case from such lawyer and his removal from the panel.		
9.	Legal services by way of legal advice, consultation, drafting and conveyancing (1) The Executive Chairman or Chairman of the Legal Services Institution shall maintain a separate panel of senior lawyers, law firms, retired judicial officers, mediators, conciliators and law professors in the law universities or law colleges for providing legal advice and other legal services like drafting and conveyancing. (2) The services of the legal aid clinics in the rural areas and in the law colleges and law universities shall also be made use of.	 6. Amendment to Regulation 9 - (1) In sub-regulation (1), the words "Legal Services Institutions shall" shall be substituted with the words "Legal Services Institutions may" (2) The sub-regulation (2) shall be deleted. 	
		Apart from the above JHALSA proposes amendment by inserting new Regulation 9(1)(A) as under: Regulation 9 (1)(A) - The Executive Chairman or Chairman of the Legal Services Institution, as the case may be, shall maintain a separate Panel of Experts Retd. Senior Bureaucrats, Senior Executives, Retd. Police Officials, Doctors, Engineers, Psychiatrist, Marriage Counsellor, Chartered Accountant, Educationist and other Experts of the specialized field for legal services other than Court annexed for counseling, mediation and conciliation purpose.	by JHALSA Services of experts, trained as Mediators under Rule 5(c) of Mediation Rules 2015 may be taken by Legal Service Institution. This will ensure the services of more experienced, more committed and more devoted persons available to the common people.

	Existing Provisions	Amendments proposed	Justification
10.	Monitoring Committee. - (1) Every Legal Services Institution shall set up a Monitoring Committee for close monitoring of the court based legal services rendered and the progress of the cases in legal aided matters.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	by NALSA There is a need to keep check on the services rendered by the panel lawyers and guide them in in order to
	 (2) The Monitoring Committee at the level of the Supreme Court or the High Court, as the case may be, shall consist of, - (i) the Chairman of the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee or Chairman of the High Court Legal Services Committee; 	(1) The Regulation To shall be substituted as under:	enhance the quality of legal services provided by the Legal Services Institutions.
	(ii) the Member-Secretary or Secretary of the Legal Services Institution;	(2) The Monitoring and Mentoring Committee at the level of the Supreme Court shall consist of -	
	(iii) a Senior Advocate to be nominated by the Patron-in- Chief of the Legal Services Institution.	(i) A Senior Advocate to be nominated by the Chairman of the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee	
	(3) The Monitoring Committee for the District or Taluk Legal Services Institution shall be constituted by the Executive Chairman of the State Legal Services Authority and shall consist of, -	 (ii) Secretary, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (iii) An Advocate-on-Record having 10 years of practice to be nominated by the Chairman of the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee 	
	 (i) the senior-most member of the Higher Judicial Services posted in the district concerned, as its Chairman; (ii) the Member-Secretary or Secretary of the Legal Services 	 (iv) Legal Service Counsel-cum-Consultant, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (3) The Monitoring and Mentoring Committee at the level of the High Court shall consist of - 	
	vices Institution; (iii) a legal practitioner having more than fifteen years' experience at the local Bar-to be nominated in consulta-	(i) A Senior Advocate to be nominated by the Chairman of the High Court Legal Services Committee (ii) Secretary, High Court Legal Services Committee	
	tion with the President of the local Bar Association: Provided that if the Executive Chairman is satisfied that there is no person of any of the categories mentioned in this sub-regulation, he may constitute the	(iii) 1 retired judicial officer from the State Higher Judicial Service to be nominated by the Chairman of the High Court Legal Services Committee 1	
	Monitoring Committee with such other persons as he may deem proper.	(4) The Monitoring and Mentoring Committee at the State/District Legal Services Authority shall consist of -	
		(i) Member Secretary of Secretary of the Legal Services Institution, as the case may be	

Existing Provisions	Amendments proposed	Justification
	(ii) One serving and one retired judicial officer from the State/Higher Judicial Service to be nominated by the Executive Chairman or the Chairman of the Legal Services Institution.	
	(5) The Monitoring and Mentoring Committee at the Taluk Legal Services Committee shall consist of-	
	(i) Chairman of the Taluk Legal Services Committee	
	(ii) 1 retired or serving judicial officer to be nominated by the Chairman of the District Legal Services Authority.	
	(7) The retired judicial officers nominated as above shall render their services on the days as may be required and fixed by the Executive Chairman or Chairman of the Legal Services Institution.	
	(8) The retired judicial officer shall be paid per day honorarium which shall not be less than -	
	(a) Rs.2,500 per day in the case of State Higher Judicial Service	
	(b) Rs.2,000/- per day in the case of State Judicial Service"	
	by JHALSA	by JHALSA
	Apart from the above JHALSA, proposes amendment by inserting new Regulation 10(9) as under:	It is essential to develop a mechanism for guidance o panel lawyer to ensure quality & responsive justice.
	Regulation 10 (9)- Monitoring and Mentoring Committee shall review the progress of Court annexed legal aid matters to guide and advice the panel lawyers.	
	Proposed Amendment in NALSA's Amendment in Regulation 10 (4) (i) – "Member Secretary of Secretary" may be substituted by "Member Secretary or (instead of 'of') Secretary"	
	Proposed Amendment in NALSA's Amendment in Regulation 10 (4) (ii) – "One serving and one retired judicial" shall be substituted by "One serving or (instead of 'and') one retired judicial"	

Existing Provisions 11. Functions of the Monitoring Committee		Amendments proposed	Justification
		by NALSA	
	(1) Whenever legal services are provided to an applicant, the Member-Secretary or Secretary shall send the details in	Amendment to Section 11 -	
	Form-II to the Monitoring Committee at the earliest.	(1) Regulation 11 shall be substituted with the following:	
	(2) The Legal Services Institution shall provide adequate staff and infrastructure to the Monitoring Committee for main- taining the records of the day-to-day progress of the legal aided cases.	"11. Functions of the Monitoring and Mentoring Committee (1) Whenever court based legal aid is provided to an applicant, the Member-Secretary or Secretary shall send the details in Form-II to the Monitoring and Mentoring Committee at the earliest.	
	(3) The Legal Services Institution may request the Presiding Of- ficer of the court to have access to the registers maintained by the court for ascertaining the progress of the cases.	(2) The Legal Services Institution shall provide adequate staff and infrastructure to the Monitoring and Mentoring Committee for maintaining the records of the day-to-day progress of the legal aided cases.	
	The Monitoring Committee shall maintain a register for legal aided cases for recording the day-to-day postings, progress of the case and the end result (success or failure) in respect of cases for which legal aid is allowed and the said register shall be scrutinised by the Chairman of the Committee every month.	(3) The Monitoring and Mentoring Committee shall assist the Legal Services Institutions in organising training programmes for panel lawyers from time to time to enhance the skill of the panel lawyers.	
		(4) The Committee shall mentor the panel lawyers and keep guiding them in providing of quality legal services.	
	(5) The Monitoring Committee shall keep a watch of the day- to-day proceedings of the court by calling for reports from the panel lawyers, within such time as may be determined	(5) The Legal Services Institution may request the Presiding Officer of the court to have access to the registers maintained by the court for ascertain- ing the progress of the cases.	
	by the Committee.(6) If the progress of the case is not satisfactory, the Committee may advise the Legal Services Institution to take appropriate steps.	(5) The Monitoring and Mentoring Committee shall maintain a register for legal aided cases for recording the day-to-day postings, progress of the case and the end result (success or failure) in respect of cases for which legal aid is allowed and the said register shall be scrutinised by the Chairman of the	
	(5) The Monitoring Committee shall keep a watch of the day- to-day proceedings of the court by calling for reports from the panel lawyers, within such time as may be determined by the Committee.	Committee every month. (6) The Monitoring and Mentoring Committee shall keep a watch of the day-to-day proceedings of the court by calling for reports from the panel law-yers within such time as may be determined by the Committee.	
	•	(7) If the progress of the case is not satisfactory, the Committee may advise the Legal Services Institution to take appropriate steps."	

Existing Provisions	Amendments proposed	Justification
	by JHALSA	by JHALSA
	Apart from the above JHALSA proposes amendment by inserting a new Regulation 11(8) as under: Regulation 11 (8)-Monitoring and Mentoring Committee may meet as and when the meeting is convened by Secretary or Member Secretary but it shall meet at least once in two month and meeting shall be convened by Secretary/Member Secretary on prior approval from Executive Chairman/Chairman of the SLSA/DLSA/TLSA.	Under Regulation 12 of NALSA (Free & Competent Legal Services) Regulations, 2010 a monthly report is to be submitted, therefore atleast one meeting is essential in two month.
FORM -I National Legal Services Authority (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulations, -2010 (see regulation-3)	by NALSA 9. Amendment to FORM -1 (1) In S.No. 4, after the word "Act" the following words shall be inserted: "If yes, which category"	
The Form of Application for Legal Services (This may be prepared in the regional language)	(2) In S.No. 5, the word "affidavit" will be substituted with the word "self-certification". by JHALSA	by JHALSA
Registration No.: 1. Name :	Amendment to FORM-I In SI.No. 4 after the word "Act" the following words shall be inserted: "If yes, then specify the category" by tick. (in place of "which category")	"If yes, then specify the category" is more appropriate than "if yes, which category" and a Drop Box will be user friendly.
 Permanent Address : Contact Address with phone no. if any, e-mail ID, if any : Whether the applicant belongs to 	 Person belonging to Scheduled Caste community Persons belonging to Scheduled Tribe community Women 	
the category of persons mentioned in section -12 of the Act : 5. Monthly income of the applicant :	 Children Prisoners/Person in custody Besides these the general people whose annual incomes 	
6. Whether affidavit/proof has been Produced in support of income/ eligibility u/s 12 of the Act :	is under Rs.1,00,000/- per year (subject to limit as fixed by concerned State Govt.) is also entitled for free legal aid.	
 7. Nature of legal aid or advise required : 8. A brief statement of the case, if court based legal services is required : 	A person under circumstances of underserved want such as being a victim of a mass disaster, ethnic violence, caste atrocity, flood, drought, earthquake or industrial disaster Visting of Traffelium.	
Signature of the applicant Place: Date:	 Victim of Trafficking Industrial Workmen Mentally ill or otherwise disabled person. Other than above 	

		Existing Provisions	Amendments proposed	Justification
	NALSA (Legal Services Clinics) Regulations, 2011			
9.	Leg	al services in the legal aid clinic	by NALSA	
	(1)	Legal services rendered at the legal service clinic shall be wide ranging in nature.	1. Amendment to Regulation 9.	
	(2)	The legal services clinic shall work like a single-window facility for helping the disadvantaged people to solve their problems whenever needed.	In sub-regulation 3, the words "smart card" shall be inserted after the words "identity card".	
	(3)	Besides legal advice, other services like preparing applications for job card under the MGNREGA Scheme, identity card for different government purposes, liaison with the government offices and public authorities, helping the common people who come to the clinic for solving their problems with the government officials, authorities and other institutions also shall be part of the legal ' services in the legal services clinic:	by JHALSA JHALSA proposes amendment as under: "Legal Aid Clinics" should be substituted by "Legal Services Clinics" everywhere in the Regulation, including the heading.	by JHALSA Because it is Legal Services Clinic now.
17.	deri fina con the	norarium for the lawyers and para-legal volunteers rening services in the legal services clinics (1) Subject to the ncial resources available the State Legal Services Authority in sultation with the National Legal Services Authority may fix honorarium of lawyers and para-legal volunteers engaged in legal services clinics:	 by NALSA Amendment to Regulation 17 in the proviso of sub-regulation (1) the figures of "500" and "250" shall be replaced with the figures "750" and "400" respectively. 	by NALSA The honorarium payable to the panel lawyers and PLVs rendering services in the Legal Services Clinics was fixed in the year 2011. Hence, it is necessary to enhance the same keeping in view the inflation.
		vided that such honorarium shall not be less than Rs. 500/day for lawyers and Rs. 250/- per day for the para-legal voluns.		
	(2)	Special consideration may be given in cases where the legal services clinic is situated in difficult terrains and in distant places where transport facilities are inadequate.		
		vided that such honorarium shall not be less than Rs. 500/day for lawyers and Rs. 250/- per day for the para-legal volunces.		
	(2)	Special consideration may be given in cases where the legal services clinic is situated in difficult terrains and in distant places where transport facilities are inadequate.		

Existing Provisions	Amendments proposed	Justification			
Scheme for Para-Legal Volun	teers (Revised) & Module for the Orientation -	Induction - Refresher			
	Courses for PLV Training				
Expenses incurred by Para-Legal Volunteers	by NALSA				
Reasonable expenses incurred by Para-Legal Volunteers e.g. Bus/Train fare, Postage, Telephone charges etc., may be reimbursed by the TLSC/	Expenses incurred by Para-Leqal Volunteers				
DLSA/SLSA, on production of proof., Travel expenses limited to the lowest classes by road/rail/steamer to the legal aid beneficiaries brought by the Para-Legal Volunteers also may be reimbursed at the	(1) The words "Bus/Train fare, Postage, Telephone charges etc." shall be substituted with the words "transportation, telephone charges and other incidental expenses".				
discretion of the Chairman. The rate of daily honorarium payable to PLVs on the days of their engagement as such in metro-cities may be as determined by the	(2) After the words "production of proof" the word "self-certification" shall be inserted.				
SLSA.	(3) In the para regarding honorarium payable to the PLVs, after the word "SLSA" the words "and shall not be less than Rs. 400/- per day" shall be inserted.				
The PLVs are not entitled to any travel expenses when they use the transport provided by SLSA/DLSA/TLSC	by JHALSA	by JHALSA			
	Apart from above JHALSA proposes amendment by inserting another provision as under:				
	(4) PLVs attending Training, Seminar, Capacity Building Programme shall be considered on duty and honorarium fixed for a day shall be given to the PLVs.	A PLV attending the Training Programme is considered on duty for the purpose of giving honorarium.			
	(5) Para Legal Volunteer, who has worked for atleast 15 days in a month, shall be paid an amount equal to one day remuneration (Rs. 400/-) by way of reimbursement of recharge of mobile phone.	There is provision in Scheme for reimbursement of telephone charges, but such reimbursement limit in not there. Further, such reimbursement should be available to only those PLVs who have worked for at least 15 days in a month.			