

SUPREME COURT LEGAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

ACHIEVEMENTS

A JOURNEY FROM 1981

The Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee was constituted in the year **1981** vide Office Memorandum of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs dated 10th July 1981 and rendered legal aid to the applicants.

After the insertion of section 3A in the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, in the year 1994, the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee was constituted in the year 1996. The SCLSC Regulations came into existence in the year 1996. Since then it has been tirelessly engaged in providing free and competent legal services to the needy and eligible section of the society.

6th August-2009

Supreme Court Mediation Centre

Supreme Court Mediation Centre was inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. Justice. K. G. Balakrishnan, the then Hon'ble Chief Justice of India in the august presence of Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.B. Sinha, the then Executive Chairman NALSA and Hon'ble Mr. Justice. Tarun Chatterjee, the then Hon'ble Chairman of SCLSC.

2015

First digital database of the SCLSC launched.

This database made it possible to send timely updates of the applications to the applicants about the status of their applications via SMS and kept them updated about the application.

The official website of SCLSC was launched to receive online applications from the legal aid applicants which has reduced the time for approaching SCLSC to file petition before the Supreme Court.

20.03.2018

59th Meeting of the Executive Committee

Direct filing of certain criminal matters

It was resolved that applications for legal aid by *accused-convicts* in criminal cases relating to offences of rape, murder imposing death sentences, life imprisonment and cases involving imprisonment for a term of more than 10 years, shall be directly processed for filing before the Hon'ble Supreme Court

Embracing Fast Communication

The system of sending information about the assignment of cases is sent via email as well as Short Message Service (SMS) to the advocate on panel and applicants to expedite communication with the clients was set up.

PROJECT 'SAHYOG'

Reduction in pendency of cases

The total pendency with the SCLSC was reduced from 3800 (as in January 2018) to 2144 (as on 22.09.2018).

Special incentives were introduced during project SAHAYOG to encourage advocates to process matters allocated to them with due expedition.

2021

Affidavit of eligibility to be self attested

To ease the process of legal aid, it was decided that the Affidavit for grant of legal services as per Regulation 5 of the National Legal Services Authority (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulations, 2010 will be an affidavit that will be self-attested by the Applicant and is no longer required to be attested through notary or an oath commissioner.

Digital Accounting

Digital mode of payment of honorariums to the advocates on the panel has been introduced

DEDICATED EFFORTS EVEN DURING THE PERIOD OF COVID PANDEMIC FROM July 2020 TO DECEMBER 2021

The work of providing legal aid has not ceased even during Covid-19 Pandemic, SCLSC has attended 1190 applicants in the Front office even during the Pandemic from July 2020 to December 2021.

Release of Vision Document:-A vision for the future and Launch of SCLSC Online Portal-2022

The Vision Document was released by Hon'ble The Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.V.Ramana, on 30th April 2022 in the gracious presence of Hon'ble Minister Shri. Kiren Rijiju, Union Cabinet Minister, Ministry of Law and Justice and Hon'ble Mr. Justice U.U.Lalit, Judge, Supreme Court of India and Executive Chairman, NALSA.

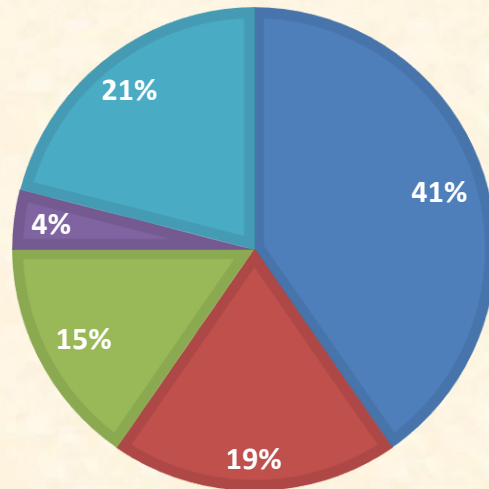
The SCLSC Online Portal was launched by Hon'ble Minister Shri. Kiren Rijiju, Union Cabinet Minister, Ministry of Law and Justice. The Online Portal will interlink all the Legal Service Institutions and Jail Authorities with SCLSC.

The Vision Document- a Vision for the Future and SCLSC Online Portal is conceptualised by Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.M.Khanwilkar, Judge, Supreme Court of India and Chairman SCLSC.

Statistics of SCLSC till 03.05.2022

Legal Aid Applications

- Total applications
- Legal aid granted
- Matters disposed by Supreme Court
- Matters pending before the Supreme Court
- applications rejected for want of compliance etc.



SUCCESS IN COURT

Writ Petition (Crl.) No.312 of 1994 seeking direction to all States to abide by and implement the 1987 Act. The Hon'ble Supreme Court was pleased to issue directions on 18.08.1998 prescribing the procedure as follows: -

- All jail authorities are required to inform and explain the contents of the judgment by the court of sessions and the High Court to the convicts;
- Complete the legal aid formalities at the cost of state exchequer;
- Compile the records and document to be sent to the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee;
- To have the documents translated at the cost of the State in case they are in regional languages.

SUCCESS IN COURT

- Imtiyaz Ramzan Khan vs State of Maharashtra
https://main.sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2018/20446/20446_2018_Judgement_14-Aug-2018.pdf
- Smt. Sushma Gosain vs Union of India
<https://indiankanoon.org/doc/571995/>
- Pannalal vs. State of M.P <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/1787618/>
- Union of India vs Krishna Modi and Anr
https://main.sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2020/15829/15829_2020_39_8_33096_Judgement_03-Feb-2022.pdf