

Regional Meet of State Legal Services Authorities conclude



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Syed Miraz Ahmed 28 September 2017 11601 views

The regional meet of the all the North-Eastern States [Legal](#) Services Authorities under the aegis of the [National](#) States [Legal](#) Services Authorities was held at Shillong on September 27 and was inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr Justice [Ranjan](#) Gogoi, Judge, Supreme Court of [India](#) & Executive Chairman, [National Legal](#) Services Authority. The Meet which saw the participation of the Chief Justices and Judges from the states of [Arunachal](#) Pradesh, Assam, [Manipur](#), [Meghalaya](#), Mizoram, [Nagaland](#), Sikkim and [Tripura](#) accompanied by the [Judicial](#) Officers of the respective states commenced with the inaugural programme by the delivery of welcome address by Hon'ble Mr Justice Sudip [Ranjan](#) Sen, Judge, High Court of [Meghalaya](#) & Executive Chairman, MSLSA and a speech by Justice Dinesh Maheshwari, Chief Justice, High Court of [Meghalaya](#) & Patron-in-Chief, MSLSA.

The conference comprised of two technical sessions which discussed on several issues on "Evaluation and Review of the Work-Performance of SLSAs on, [Legal](#) Aid, [National](#) Lok Adalats and Implementation of NALSA Schemes" and also "Identification of the areas for expansion of the SLSAs activities under the NALSA Schemes". Justice [Ranjan](#) Gogoi stressed on the role of the [Legal](#) Services Institutions to carry out the schemes of NALSA by emphasising the fact the role of the [Legal](#) Services Institutions goes beyond the scope of only giving [legal](#) aid, but the very fact that access to justice for all means that justice has to be meted out to all those who are in need of justice.

Justice Gogoi also stated that the role of the SLSAs is spelt out in the object of the scheme itself and further emphasised that the activities of the SLSAs should be given more publicity so that the executive is aware of the ground reality and the works carried out by the Authority to make the beneficiaries informed about the various [legal](#) schemes and also to constantly monitor the Schemes on the ground. He stated that the implementation of the various schemes is the need of the hour which needs commitment on the part of the authorities in order to reach out and sensitize the people at the grassroots [level](#) and that the Lok Adalats are not the only means of providing access to justice but the real purpose of the [Legal](#) Service Authority is to get the response and be able to transform the thinking of the people in the Executive and to make effective use of the resources available including Para [Legal](#) Volunteers as the main source of manpower available in the states concerned.

In the later session, Justice Gogoi raised a question to the participants with regard to the quality of the assessment of the Para [Legal](#) Volunteers carried out and stated that the recruitment of PLV's must be carried out meticulously.

Touching on the various aspects of how the functioning and role of [Legal](#) Service Institutions can be more effective in bringing justice to those in need, who are hitherto not been able to knock on the doorsteps of justice, Justice Gogoi exhorted those present to rise to the occasion and said that the [Legal](#) Services Institutions are placed at an advantageous position in as much as it has the fund required, the support of the Executive and the backing of the Judiciary to implement all the schemes in the quest for access of Justice for all.

Syed Miraz Ahmed

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BY SYED MIRAZ AHMED

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