

LEGAL SERVICES CAMP FOR DIFFERENTLY- ABLED CHILDREN

June 28, 2022

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The Goa State Legal Services Authority organized a one day Legal Services Camp on NALSA scheme of 2021 (Legal Services For Differently abled Children) for the benefit of the Divyangjan/Persons with Disabilities on **June 18**, 2022 at Santa Cruz, recently in the premises of the National Association for the Blinds (Goa State Branch). The camp drew a good response from the people.

Inaugural function of the camp was presided over by the Senior Judge of the High Court of Bombay at Goa and Executive Chairman of the Goa State Legal Services Authority, Shri. Justice M. S. Sonak. Judge High Court of Bombay at Goa and Chairman, High Court Legal Services Committee, Shri. Justice R. N. Laddha, Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities Shri. Guruprasad Pawaskar, and President of the National Association for the Blind, Shri. Mendonsa Rozanda were also present on the occasion.

Judge of the High Court of Bombay at Goa and Chairman, High Court Legal Services Committee, Shri. Justice R. N. Laddha welcomed the dignitaries on the dais and off the dais. The State Commissioner for the Persons with Disabilities Shri. Guruprasad Pawaskar was a keynote speaker for the occasion. UDID Cards were distributed to children.

Shri. Justice R. N. Laddha, highlighted the need to create awareness about “Accessible India” and about the necessity for the protection of the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities through the enforcement of the newly enacted legislation “The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016”. He stated that the Constitution of India ensures equality, freedom, justice and dignity of all individuals and implicitly mandates an inclusive society for all including persons with disabilities.

Shri. Justice R. N. Laddha pointed out that in recent years; there have been vast and positive changes in the perception of the society towards persons with disabilities.

He further stated that the State Government functionaries should function in line with the Laws and legislations for taking up such

interventions for the benefits of the Divyangjan which would be complemented by the Legal awareness camps of the GSLSA and DLSA such as issue of Disability Certificates/ UDID cards, extending the benefit of Assistive Devices and to provide them social security by various means.

In the keynote address, Commissioner for the Persons with Disabilities Shri Guruprasad Pawaskar, stated that there is a need to create awareness among the general public about the rights of Divyangjan and to provide basic amenities with accessible facility for the persons with disability and barrier free buildings of school, colleges and other offices. He further expressed that awareness of rights of the Persons with Disability in the society and sensitization of the society is the only way to achieve an inclusive society wherein Divyangjan can happily enjoy their rights and achieve their goals.

The State Government officials facilitated the persons present to understand different need based schemes/programs implemented by the government for the benefit of the Dvyangjan. Persons with Disabilities were also facilitated with their online registration for obtaining UDID.

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