

# **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON NALSA (Legal Services to the Mentally ill and Mentally Disabled Persons) Scheme, 2015**

**Q.1. What is the objective of this Scheme?**

**Ans :** The objective of the Scheme is to ensure that the mentally ill or mentally disabled are not stigmatized and they are dealt with as individuals who are to be helped to enforce all rights they are entitled to and as assured to them by law.

**Q.2 What are the factors to be considered by the Legal Services Institutions while dealing with mentally ill or mentally disabled persons ?**

**Ans :** While dealing with Mentally ill or Mentally Disabled Persons, the Legal Services Institutions must keep in mind the following factors :-

- (a) The Legal Services Institutions shall keep in mind the fact that mental illness is curable on proper medication and care.
- (b) Mentally disabled persons are not mentally ill persons - Mentally disabled persons are suffering from mental disabilities due to developmental disorders. Mental Retardation (MR) is of permanent nature and is not curable. So also Autism and Cerebral Palsy. They are, therefore, treated as persons with disabilities under Section 2 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 (PWD Act).
- (c) It shall be the prime concern of the Legal Services Institutions to promote, protect, and ensure full and equal enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by the mentally ill and mentally disabled persons.
- (d) The legal services institutions shall promote respect for the inherent dignity, individual autonomy including independence of mentally ill and mentally disabled persons.

- (e) The legal services institutions shall not discriminate mentally ill and mentally disabled persons merely because of his/her state of mental health, rather, they are to be dealt with greater sensitivity and care.
- (f) The legal services institutions shall make provisions including reasonable accommodation to ensure that persons with mental illness or mental disabilities have equal access to any scheme, programme, facility or service offered.
- (g) Right to treatment and to get proper health care, emanating from Article 21 of the Constitution of India is equally applicable to all mentally ill persons. Therefore the legal services institutions shall ensure that such persons are able to access treatment facilities available in the psychiatric hospitals for psychiatric nursing homes by invoking the provisions in chapter IV of the Mental Health Act, 1987.
- (h) Legal Services institutions shall ensure that when a person is subjected to treatment for mental illness, his/her informed consent is obtained. If any person is incapable of giving such consent, the informed consent of his/her relatives or friend and in their absence, the satisfaction of the court under Part II Chapter V of Mental Health Act, 1987 shall be ensured.
- (i) Mentally disabled persons, particularly female mentally disabled, are one of the vulnerable groups most likely to be exploited. Therefore, the legal services institutions shall come to the assistance of mentally disabled persons in preventing their exploitation including sexual abuse and also for taking legal action against the abusers and exploiters.
- (j) Mentally disabled persons by and large, mentally ill persons, cannot fruitfully utilize information and cannot be imparted with optimum legal literacy, because of their mentally challenged situation. Therefore, legal service institutions should assess and audit their eligibilities and needs, in terms of the laws, on collective as well as individual basis, and such requirements shall be addressed by extending legal services.

**Q.3 When the reception orders are passed by the Judicial Magistrate as to wandering mentally ill person ?**

**Ans :** Under section 23 of the Mental Health Act, 1987 the officer in charge of a police station can take or cause to be taken into protection a wandering mentally ill person or a dangerous mentally ill person within the limits of his station and produce such persons before the Magistrate under Section 24 for passing reception orders authorizing the detention of the said persons as an inpatient in a psychiatric hospital or psychiatric nursing home for purpose of treatment.

Similarly, under section 25 of the Mental Health Act, 1987, a police officer or a private person who has reason to believe that a mentally ill person within the limits of his station is not under proper care and control or is ill-treated or neglected by relatives or other persons having charge of such mentally ill person, can report the matter before the Magistrate. The Magistrate can pass an order of reception or even fine the person who is responsible for neglecting the mentally ill.

**Q.4. To whom to be reported about the homeless or destitute mentally disabled person?**

**Ans :** In case of homeless or destitute mentally disabled person, ordinarily the matter must be reported to the Local Level Committee through a registered organization as prescribed under the National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act, 1999 and Rules and Regulations thereunder.

**Q. 5. Who will issue appropriate directions for the care of neglected or destitute mentally disabled person?**

**Ans :** It is the Local Level Committee which would pass appropriate directions for the care of the neglected or destitute mentally disabled person.

**Q.6. What are the functions of legal services institutions in the country?**

**Ans :** The legal services institutions right from State Legal Services Authority to Mandal Legal Services Committee have been asked to discharge the following main functions -

- (i) to provide free and competent legal services to the eligible persons including the persons with disability as mentioned under sec 12(d) of Legal services Authorities Act, 1987
- (ii) to organize Lok Adalats for amicable settlement of disputes
- (iii) to organize Legal Awareness Camps; and
- (iv) to implement the Schemes and policy directed by NALSA through strategic and preventive Legal Service Programmes.

**Q. 7. What is free Legal Aid?**

**Ans :** Legal advice by a legal practitioner  
Representation on behalf of entitled person in any legal proceedings.  
Payment to the entitled person or on his behalf;

- Of court fee;
- Of process fee and expenses of witnesses;
- Of charges for preparation of paper book, including charges for printing and translation of documents;
- Of charges for the supply of certified copies of judgments and other documents
- Of any amount on any other account in any legal proceedings.

**Q. 8. Who is a Panel Lawyer?**

**Ans :** "Panel Lawyer" means a lawyer selected under regulation 8 of the National Legal Services Authority (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulations 2010, to render free and competent legal services to the deserving and needy persons under the Scheme.

**Q. 9. What is the role of Panel Lawyer?**

**Ans :** Panel Lawyer has to represent the best interest of the mentally ill persons and mentally disabled persons under this scheme and to assist the Judicial Magistrate while passing reception orders and will also help cured voluntary patients for moving request for discharge u/s 18 or by involuntary patients u/s 19 of Mental Health Act, 1987 and also spreads awareness about the rights of mentally ill and mentally disabled persons.

**Q.10. Who is a Para Legal Volunteer?**

**Ans :** A person with basic knowledge of law and other available welfare measures and legislations with an inclination to assist their immediate neighbourhood is selected as Para Legal Volunteer by the concerned Legal Services Institution and trained to improve the legal services network.

### **Q. 11. Who should be the Para Legal Volunteer?**

- Ans :**
- Advocates, Teachers and lecturers of Government and Private Schools and Colleges of all levels. Anganwadi workers.
  - Private or Government doctors and other Government employees.
  - Field level officers of different departments and agencies of the State and Union Governments.
  - Students of graduation and post graduation in Law, Education, social services of humanities.
  - Members of a political service oriented Non Governmental Organizations and Clubs
  - Members of Women Neighbourhood Groups, Maithri Sanghams Educated prisoners serving long term sentences in Central Prison and District Prison.
  - Social Workers and volunteers, volunteers of Panchayat Raj and Municipal institutions.
  - Members of Cooperative Societies. Members of Trade Unions.
  - Any other persons the District Legal Services Authority or Taluk Services Committee deems fit to be identified as Para Legal Volunteers

### **Q.12. What are the duties of trained Para Legal Volunteers and their Honorarium?**

- Ans :** PLVs shall
1. educate people, specially those belonging to Weaker sections of the society,
  2. spread awareness among the people about their basic human rights, fundamental rights to enjoy all the Constitutionally and Statutorily guaranteed rights
  3. PLVs shall also constantly keep watch on violators of law or acts of injustice in their operation.
  4. They will also assist in conducting legal literacy camps
  5. They will work by sitting in front offices

6. They are eligible for a Honorarium of Rs.250/- per day when engaged for rendering services in Legal Aid Clinics and Front Offices

**Q.13. Whether the work of the Para Legal Volunteers is monitored regularly?**

**Ans :** Yes. The Secretary of DLSA., shall monitor the work done by the PLVs every month and the PLVs shall maintain the prescribed Registers.

**Q.14. Whether the Para Legal Volunteers can be disqualified and removed?**

**Ans :** Yes. Para Legal Volunteer is disqualified if he/she

1. Fails to evince interest in the scheme
2. Has been adjudged as insolvent
3. Has been accused of an offence
4. Has become physically and mentally incapable
5. Has abused his or her position or misconduct in any manner so as to render his / her continuance prejudicial to the public interest.
6. Affiliated to political parties

Such para legal volunteer can be removed by the Chairman DLSA and has to intimate the same to the State Legal Services Authority

**Q. 15. What is the role of PLVs in protecting the interest of mentally ill and mentally disabled persons?**

**Ans:** PLVs assigned to the Police Stations assist the Police in referring the mentally disabled persons who are neglected, homeless and destitutes to the local level committee set up under section 13 of the National Trust for the welfare of persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple disability Act, 1999, for the care and rehabilitation of mentally disabled persons and also spreads awareness about the rights of mentally ill and mentally disabled persons.

The PLVs will also render help to cured voluntary patients for moving request for discharge u/s 18 (or) by involuntary patients u/s 19 of Mental Health Act, 1987.

The PLVs in legal services clinics also render assistance to the in-patient to obtain leave of absence as provided under sections 45 and 46 of the Mental Health Act.

The legal services institutions through legal services clinics and PLVs will see that there is no transgression of human rights of the inmates of Psychiatric hospitals and homes.

**Q.16. Who will take the responsibility of spreading awareness about the welfare schemes ?**

**Ans :** As per the NALSA scheme, a team of panel lawyers, PLVs and social workers would be constituted for spreading awareness on welfare schemes of NALSA and also various Government Schemes to the needy people.

**Q.17. How the Legal Services be extended to mentally ill and mentally disabled persons under Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987?**

**Ans :** A person with disability as defined in clause (i) of Sec.2 of Disabilities Act, 1995 is one of the beneficiary of Legal Services under Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. Under sec 12(d) of the Act, "a person with disability" as defined in clause (i) of Sec.2 of Persons with Disabilities (equal opportunity, protection of rights and full participation) Act, 1995 is entitled for legal services and is the mandatory duty of various Legal Services Institutions to provide free legal aid to persons who are mentally ill and mentally disabled wherever it is required.

In this background this NALSA Scheme has been drawn up and all the Legal Services Institutions viz State Legal Services Authority, District Legal Services Authorities and Taluq Legal Services Committees, High Court Legal Services Committee and Supreme Court Legal Services Committee have to follow the NALSA ( Legal Services to the Mentally and mentally disabled persons) Scheme, 2015 while they deal with Legal Services to such disabled persons.

**Q.18. What is the role of State Legal Services Authority in implementation of various Government Schemes and NALSA scheme ?**

**Ans :** The State Legal Services Authorities have an important role to play in representing the best interest of mentally ill and mentally disabled persons. The State Legal Services Authorities (SLSAs) will have to act as a bridge between mentally ill and mentally disabled persons and the Government Departments. The State Legal Services Authorities will have to ensure that Rule of law prevails. Restoring

faith in the legal system, efficacy of rule of law is of prime importance. The Legal Services Institutions should explore activities in these areas by sensitizing NGOs, CBOs and other stake holders in realizing their duties and responsibilities for protecting the interest of mentally ill and mentally disabled persons. Legal Services Institutions shall also ensure that mentally ill persons are able to access treatment facilities available in psychiatric or nursing homes by invoking the provisions of Chapter IV of Mental Health Act, 1987.

**Q.19. What is the role of Nodal Officer in implementing the NALSA Scheme?**

**Ans :** The Nodal Officer nominated in the District would be responsible for ensuring the convergence of NALSA Scheme with the policies, Schemes and Guidelines of the Government on the subject matter.

**Q.20. Whether sensitization of Judicial Officers with regard to Legal Services Schemes including this NALSA Scheme is essential?**

**Ans :** Yes. Once all the Judicial Officers in the Country are properly sensitized with regard to socio- legal problems faced by mentally ill and mentally disabled persons, their parents, relatives and family members, the legal rights of mentally ill and mentally disabled are well protected.

**Q.21. Who is the Competent Authority for payment of victim compensation as per the Telangana Victim Compensation Scheme, 2015?**

**Ans :** The Member Secretary of the State Legal Services Authority is competent for payment of Victim Compensation as determined by the Court or as determined by the Legal Services Institutions on an enquiry.

**Q.22. What is the role of Legal Services Institutions to represent the best interest of wandering mentally ill person and homeless or destitute mentally disabled persons ?**

**Ans :** Legal services institutions must devise sensitization programmes in coordination with mental health officials including doctors, police officials and judicial magistrates dealing with inquisition proceedings to evolve locally conducive mode to ensure that wandering mentally ill persons are identified and dealt with securing their human rights by



obtaining appropriate judicial orders as may be found necessary in each case.

The legal services institutions must draw up a panel of sensitive and sensitized legal services lawyers to represent the best interest of the mentally ill person at the time of production of the person under Section 24 or Section 25 of the Mental Health Act, 1987 and assist the Magistrate while passing an order that would be in the welfare of the mentally ill person.

The legal services institutions must assist the police through its PLVs assigned to the police stations to refer the mentally disabled persons, who are neglected, homeless or destitute to the Local Level Committee set up under section 13 of the National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act, 1999 so that orders such as appointment of guardian, whether individual or institutional, for the care and rehabilitation of the mentally disabled person is ensured.

**Q.23. What are the steps to be taken by State Legal Services Authority in protecting the interest of mentally ill and mentally disabled persons who were kept in jails ?**

**Ans :** The State Legal Services Authority have to first ensure that the Public Interest Litigation is registered in the High Court and a Hon'ble Judge is designated to deal with the matter as directed by the Supreme Court of India.

The State Legal Services Authority will carry out inspection of all jails with the assistance of the State Mental Health Authority (SMHA) or any other team constituted by the High Court or under the directions of the High Court to ascertain whether there are any mentally ill and mentally disabled persons in the jails and if there are, to immediately seek appropriate directions from the High Court with regard to their shifting out and their treatment.

The State Legal Services Authority in coordination with the State Mental Health Authority will constitute a team of psychiatrists/ psychologists/ counsellors to visit the jails and assess the state of mental health of the inmates in jail. Depending on the need assessed by the team, SLSA will initiate corrective measures necessary to facilitate the treatment of the jail inmate by psychologists or psychiatrists.

As and when intimation is received from the Judicial Magistrates regarding the quarterly reports, the State Legal Services Authority shall ensure that the said quarterly report gains prompt attention of the designated Hon'ble Judge and shall seek such directions and orders as may be found necessary, either general in nature, or as regards any particular individual or issue. SLSA shall, in the event of any such direction or order being issued, notify the DLSA/TLSC concerned to aid and monitor its compliance, and shall also bring to the notice of the designated Hon'ble Judge about any non-compliance or deficiency in compliance of any such direction or order.

**Q.24. What are the steps to be taken by Legal Services Institution to protect the interest of mentally ill and mentally disabled persons at Psychiatric hospitals and Psychiatric homes?**

**Ans :** The State Legal Services Authority should request the High Court under section 37 of the Act for the constitution of “**Board of Visitors**” for all psychiatric hospitals, homes and similar facilities, whether government run or privately run in the State, in which the Member Secretary/Full Time Secretary of SLSAs/DLSAs should also be a Member. The Board of Visitors should regularly visit and assess the living conditions of the inmates in homes or hospitals.

The State Legal Services Authority/Board of Visitors should review the persons in these hospitals, homes and facilities to ascertain whether there are any cured persons staying there whose families appear reluctant to take them back or are themselves not able to contact their families. Whenever the SLSA/DLSAs or Board of Visitors find such inmates the SLSAs/DLSAs must take all steps to facilitate restoration, including providing legal representation in court to seek orders for restoration of the cured person with the family.

Legal Services institutions shall during their visits to the psychiatric hospitals or homes or facilities ascertain through interaction with inmates, doctors and staff as to whether any of the persons admitted there are victims of forced admission or not. In such cases, legal services shall be given to such persons for their release from the psychiatric hospitals or homes or facilities.

State Legal Services Authority/District Legal Services Authorities should setup Legal Services Clinics at the psychiatric hospitals, homes and facilities in order to provide legal assistance wherever required to the Mentally ill/mentally disabled persons.

The Clinic should also help in ensuring that the homes meant for the mentally ill and mentally disabled persons have all facilities, including for learning appropriate skills for independent and/or assisted living and earning.

It would be quite appropriate to train the doctors, nurses and other para medical staff/ administrative staff at the mental health facilities as Para Legal Volunteers so that the best legal services can be provided keeping in mind the welfare of the mentally ill/mentally disabled persons.

The Legal Services Institutions should also connect the mentally disabled persons with the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act, 1999", as assured to these persons and their families.

Legal Services Institutions should involve through the PLVs the para medical staff/administrative staff and doctors at the mental health facilities to identify the relatives and homes of those patients in relation to whom such facts are not available on record and take appropriate steps through the different legal services institutions to reach to the relatives of the patients to facilitate re-union of the patients with the near and dear ones.

Patients, who are housed in mental health centres, homes and facilities, away from their domicile and home, must be considered for providing legal assistance to ensure their transit to mental health centres, homes and facilities nearer to their native place. This can be done with involvement of SLSAs and DLSAs.

**Q.25. What is the role of Legal Services Institutions while rendering legal services to mentally ill and mentally disabled persons during court proceedings particularly inquisition Proceedings ?**

**Ans :** It shall be the duty of the legal services institutions to depute its retainer/panel lawyer to the court where an application for reception order has been moved (or) is under consideration under section 19, 20, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27 or 28 of the Mental Health Act, 1987.

The legal services institutions may request the Magistrate who deal with such applications to give notice to the legal services institutions

in all cases, for protecting the interest of the mentally ill persons in relation to whom the application for reception (or) discharge order is being made.

The legal services institutions having local jurisdiction shall keep a list of the mentally ill persons against whom reception orders have been passed by the courts and shall monitor the progress of treatment of the mentally ill persons in the psychiatric hospitals or psychiatric nursing homes where the mentally ill person is detained as per the reception order.

The legal services institutions shall bring to the notice of the Magistrate concerned about any cured mentally person remaining in the psychiatric hospitals or psychiatric nursing homes where such mentally ill person has been sent as per the reception order.

The legal services institutions should through the PLV/ Panel/ Retainer lawyers help the cured voluntary patients for moving request for discharge under Section 18 or by an involuntary patient under Section 19.

The legal services institutions should through the clinics or as part of the Board of Visitors always keep track of admissions under Section 19(1) of the Act so that detention beyond the period of the first ninety days is only on the orders of the court.

The legal services institutions shall also keep track of cases under Section 20 of the Act, so that no cured patient is allowed to remain in the psychiatric hospital, home or facility by default. They must move applications for discharge as soon as the patient is cured.

The legal services institutions shall also keep track of cases under Section 23 read with Section 25 of the Act, in relation to wandering or destitute mentally ill persons, so that the requirements under Section 28 of the Act, of a ten day review by the Magistrate of the need to keep a person under observation is strictly complied with and no person is detained longer than needed for the issuance of the certificate of mental illness under Section 24(2)(a) of the Act.

The legal services clinics and PLVs and panel/retainer lawyers should also render assistance to inpatients to obtain leave of absence as provided under Section 45 and Section 46 of the Act. They should also assist in the filing of appeals as provided for under Section 49 of the Act.

The legal services institutions shall also participate in inquisition proceedings under Section 50 of the Act to protect the interests of the mentally ill person. A request must be made to the District Judge to issue notice to the legal services institution whenever an application under Section 50 comes before it.

**Q.26. What are the steps to be taken by the legal services institutions regarding management of property owned by a mentally ill person?**

**Ans :** Where an mentally ill person own/possess property, then the Legal Services Institutions may contact any of the persons mentioned in Clauses (a) to (d) of Sub-section (1) of Section 50 of Mental Health Act, 1987 in writing and may also take up the matter with the Advocate General of the State or with the Collector of the appropriate District in terms of Clause (d) of Sub-section (1) of section 50 of the Act. Legal Services Institutions must extend legal aid to the mentally ill persons involved in such matters by providing effective assistance as may be appropriate and request the Collector concerned to aid and assist in preparing and processing such proceedings.

The Legal Services Institutions should follow up every case where a guardian of the person is appointed under Section 53 and / or the manager of the property has been appointed under Section 54 or an order of maintenance has been passed under Section 71 and Section 79 of the Act and take every step to protect the interest of the mentally ill person.

Legal services institutions shall come to the help of mentally ill and the mentally disabled in protecting their rights of inheritance, owning properties and enjoying financial rights. The persons with mental illness or mental disability have rights like others to inherit property, both movable as well as immovable, and also have a right to control their financial affairs and have access to bank loans, mortgages and other forms of financial credit, which can be accessed by them personally or through a support person who has no interest in conflict to the person with mental illness or mental disability. Legal Services institutions should render all legal help in realizing the same.

**Q.27 What is the beneficial enactment for the benefit of mentally disabled persons ?**

**Ans:** The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 was enacted for the benefit of

mentally disabled persons and Legal services institutions shall assist the mentally disabled for obtaining all benefits there under.

**Q.28. How the beneficial schemes can be availed by the mentally disabled persons?**

**Ans:** The legal services institutions shall find out different beneficial schemes which are meant for the benefit of mentally disabled and their families and shall assist the mentally disabled and their families to avail the benefits under such schemes.

**Q.29. What are the important Centrally assisted schemes for the benefit of Mentally Disabled Persons :**

**Ans: 1. Travel Concession**

**2. Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organizations for Establishment of Special Schools**

**3. Providing Aids/Appliances (ADIP scheme) :** The scheme is introduced to assist the needy disabled persons including Mentally Retarded in procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured modern standard aids and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation, by reducing the effects of disabilities and enhance their economic potential.

**4. National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC)- Schemes** for Parent's Association of mentally retarded persons

**5. National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities :** The National Trust carries out various schemes of capacity building, training and care & shelter through its registered organisations.

**VIKAS (Day Care) :** A day care scheme for persons with autism, cerebral palsy, mental retardation and multiple disabilities, above 10 years for enhancing interpersonal and vocational skills.

**DISHA :** This is an early intervention and school readiness scheme for children in the age group of 0-10 years with four disabilities covered under the National Trust Act and Aims at providing training (specifically school readiness) and counseling to both children and parents.

**SAMARTH (Respite Care)** : A scheme to provide respite home for orphans, families in crisis, Persons with Disabilities (PWD) from BPL, LIG families with at least one of the four disabilities covered under the National Trust Act.

**GHARAUNDA (Group Home for Adults)** : This scheme provides housing and care services throughout the life of the person with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities.

**NIRAMAYA Health Insurance Scheme** : This scheme is to provide affordable Health Insurance to persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities.

**GYAN PRABHA Educational support** : A scheme to encourage people with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities for pursuing educational/ vocational courses.

**PRERNA Marketing Assistance** : A marketing scheme to create viable & wide spread channels for sale of products and services produced by persons with autism, cerebral palsy, mental retardation and multiple disabilities.

**BADHTE KADAM Awareness, Community Interaction and Innovative Project** : This scheme supports Registered Organizations (RO) of The National Trust to carry out activities for increasing the awareness of The National Trust disabilities.

**SAMBHAV** : This is a scheme to set up additional resource centre one each in each city of the Country (apart from Delhi where there is currently Sambhav centre) with population greater than 5 million to collate and collect the aids, soft wares and other form of assistive devices to develop with a provision of display and demonstration of the devices.

**Q.30. What are the important State Government Schemes for the benefit of Mentally Disabled Persons**

**Ans : 1. Pre-Matric Scholarships from I to X Classes**

**2. Marriage Incentive Awards** : Government is sanctioning Rs. 50,000/- as incentive award for the marriage between person with disability and normal person, irrespective of category of the disability, so as to bring them to mainstream in the society and enable them to lead a normal life and also to encourage the normal persons to marry the differently abled persons.

**3. Economic Rehabilitation Scheme**

**4. Aasara Social Security Pension Scheme :** This scheme is meant to protect the most vulnerable sections of society in particular the old and infirm; people with HIV-AIDS, widows, incapacitated weavers and toddy tappers, who have lost their means of livelihood with growing age, in order to support their day to day minimum needs required to lead a life of dignity and social security. Disabled persons including mentally retarded having a minimum of 40% disability through SADAREM assessment are sanctioned a monthly pension amount of Rs. 1500/-.

**5. Issue of disability certificates through SADAREM**

For further details of the Scheme, may contact the Director for Welfare of Disabled and Senior Citizens, Hyderabad

(or)

Assistant Director for Welfare of Disabled and Senior Citizens in the Districts

(or)

nearest Legal Services Institutions, Legal Aid Clinics/ Clubs, PLV's and Panel Lawyers, NGO's and CBO's etc.



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For Legal Aid and other details of the scheme may contact the following:

Secretaries of District Legal Services Authorities and the Secretary of High Court Legal Services Committee

Adilabad	-	9440901043
Nizamabad	-	9440901057
Karimnagar	-	9440901049
Khammam	-	9440901050
Warangal	-	9440901063
City Civil Court Legal Services Authority, Hyd	-	9440901065
Nalgonda	-	9440901055
Ranga Reddy	-	9440901059
Mahaboobnagar	-	9440901053
Medak	-	9440901054
Metropolitan Legal Services Authority, Hyd	-	040-23442488
High Court Legal Services Committee, Hyd	-	9492358157

**TOLL FREE HELP LINE NO. 15100**

