



बिहार राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार Bihar State Legal Services Authority

(Constituted Under the 'Legal Services Authority Act, 1987' an Act of Parliament)

Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Vinod Chandran
The Chief Justice, Patna High Court-cum-Patron-in-Chief
Bihar State Legal Services Authority

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashutosh Kumar
JAD-I, Patna High Court-Cum-Executive Chairman
Bihar State Legal Services Authority

Shilpee Soniraj
Member Secretary
(Bihar Higher Judicial Service)

Letter no 1035
Dated...27.06.2024

To,

All the District & Sessions Judges-cum-Chairman,
District Legal Services Authorities of the State of Bihar

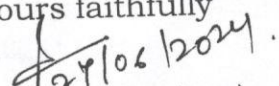
Sub:- **Regarding Guidelines for Review and Resize of Panel Lawyers, 2024**

Respected Sir/Madam,

With regard to the above noted subject, I have to inform your goodself that Hon'ble Executive Chairman, BSLSA has been pleased to approve the revised guidelines for Panel Advocates of DLSAs/SDLSCs which is attached herewith for your kind information and needful.

Your goodself is requested to kindly take necessary steps for effective implementation of the aforesaid guidelines as attached herewith.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully

(Member Secretary)
BSLSA

GUIDELINES FOR REVIEW AND RESIZE OF PANEL LAWYERS, 2024

Guidelines regarding Panel Lawyers were issued by the Bihar State Legal Services Authority (BSLSA); vide letter no. 990 dated 19.05.2012. Thereafter a few modifications were approved and BSLSA issued fresh guidelines vide Letter no. 83/BSLSA/PLV/1529 dated 04.09.2021 regarding selection of Panel Lawyers, Retainer Lawyers, their honorarium and place of their deputation etc.

Whereas as per Clause 8(11) of NALSA (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulation, 2010, the number of Retainer Lawyers in the panel of each Legal Services institution, should not exceed the minimal requirement as determined by the Executive Chairman or the Chairman, as the case may be.

Whereas NALSA has also launched Modified LADCS, Scheme 2022 (Legal Aid Defence Counsel Scheme) and is functional in all DLSAs of Bihar. As per F.No.L/20/2019/NALSA, dated 09.01.2023, NALSA has issued directions that:-

“4. After full scale implementation of LADCS, in 377 places these LADCS will act as defense lawyers just as that of Public Defenders in criminal matters from pre- arrest to trial/appeal in all criminal courts at District level as provided under the scheme. In case of any clarification please send a written communication to NALSA. After implementation of Panel Lawyer systems in 377 places will be functional or operative only for providing legal aid to the complainants/victims in criminal matters, Legal aid in civil and revenue matters/JJBs/CWCs and in all Tribunals having civil jurisdiction. Therefore, the existing panels are required to be resized and reduced to modified requirements”.

Whereas NALSA has fully implemented 15100 (toll free helpline number) and one or two retainer lawyers are registered on the said number from BSLSA and all DLSAs to provide the legal aid telephonically.

Whereas In view of Regulation-8(8) of NALSA Regulation, 2010, directions issued by NALSA and implementation of LADCS in DLSAs of Bihar, amendment in existing guidelines have been made for resizing of Panel Lawyers and assignment of duty, and ancillary matters thereto by amending all earlier guidelines (letter no. 990 dated 19.05.2012 and vide Letter no. 83/BSLSA/PLV/1529 dated 04.09.2021) to that effect. The amended guidelines are as under: -

A. DISTRICT HEADQUARTER LEVEL

A Maximum number of 30 Lawyers may be inducted as Panel Lawyers and following arrangements can be made with respect to the deputation of Lawyers out of 30 empaneled lawyers as per requirement of DLSA:-

Sr.No.	Particulars	Tentative Number of Panel Lawyers
i.	As Retainer Lawyer for front office	3
ii.	As Retainer Lawyer for 15100	2
iii.	Family Court	2
iv.	Child Welfare Committee (CWC)	1
v.	Duty Counsel at Police Station	3
vi.	Children Court /POCSO Court/JJB	3
vii.	Lawyer for Domestic Violence Cases	2
viii.	For Civil Cases	2
ix.	For Revenue Cases	2
x.	For Tribunals – Senior citizen, etc.-	2
xi.	Victim/Complainant	2
xii.	Legal Service Officer {NALSA(Legal Services to Victims of Acid Attacks) Scheme, 2016	1
xiii.	For BSLSA –SITARA' 2023	1
xiv.	For Legal Awareness Programs	4

Note: - DLSA Secretary may increase or decrease the number of Panel Lawyers for Court as per requirement. DLSA Secretary shall prepare the monthly duty roster of all panel Lawyers (except Retainer Lawyers) and they shall be given duties in rotation and ensure that all Panel lawyers are given sufficient duties. In case of urgency and/or absence of LADCS, the Retainer Lawyers may be deputed for Remand duty, in such a manner that the work of Front office and 15100 is not hampered.

B. SUB-DIVISION LEVEL

A Maximum number of 25 Lawyers may be inducted as Panel Lawyers and following arrangements can be made with respect to the deputation of lawyers out of 25 empanelled lawyers keeping in view the number of pending cases :-

Sr.No.	Particulars	Number of Panel Lawyers
i.	Retainer Lawyer	3
ii.	Jail Visiting Lawyer	3
iii.	Duty Counsel at Police Station	3
iv.	For domestic violence Cases	1
v.	For Civil Cases	2
vi.	For Criminal Cases	5
vii.	For Revenue Cases	1
viii.	For Victim/complainant	2
ix.	For Legal Awareness Programs	5

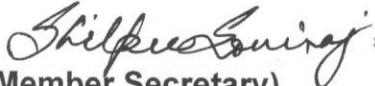
Note: - DLSA/SDLSC Secretary may increase or decrease the number of Panel Lawyers for Court as per requirement. DLSA/SDLSC Secretary shall prepare the monthly duty roster of all panel Lawyers (except Retainer Lawyers) and they shall be given duties in rotation and ensure that all Panel lawyers are given sufficient duties. In case of urgency, the Retainer Lawyers may be deputed for Remand duty, in such a manner that the work of Front office is not hampered.

C. **SELECTION OF PANEL LAWYERS**

In continuation of clause (i to xii) of guidelines vide letter no. 990, dated 04.09.2021, following clauses are added:-

- (x) DLSA Secretary shall ensure that the Selection process shall commence well before the expiry of Panel so that the entire selection process including approval from BSLSA shall be obtained within time before expiry of existing Panel.
- (xi) DLSA Secretary shall ensure all Panel Lawyers including LADCS are registered on NALSA "Legal Aid Counsel Management System- LACMS". Those who are nominated as Retainer Lawyers for 15100 are duly registered on 15100 portal.
- (xii) DLSA Secretary shall send monthly performance report of each Panel Lawyer and LADCS to BSLSA.

NOTE: - Rest all guidelines issued by BSLSA vide Letter no. 83/BSLSA/PLV/1529, dated 04.09.2021 shall remain valid.


(Member, Secretary)
25/06/2024.
BSLSA.