

MINUTE OF THE DISTRICT AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON
28.04.2021.

At 3.00 PM on 28.04.2021 the monthly District Authority meeting of the District Legal Services Authority, Golaghat, Assam has been held under the chairmanship of Sri V.K. Chandak, District & Sessions Judge-cum-Chairman, DLSA, Golaghat in presence of the following members.

1. Sri Narayan Kuri, AJS, Secretary, DLSA, Golaghat.
2. Sri Kiran Lal Baishnab, AJS, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Golaghat.
3. Sri Roktim Boruah, ACS, Addl. District Commissioner, Golaghat
4. Sri Surjeet Singh Paneswar, APS, Addl. Superintendent of Police, Golaghat.

Other Member namely Government Pleader is absent.

Other invitees:

1. Dr. Ranjit Hazarika, SDMO HO (S/H), Golaghat.
2. Dr. Dipak Dutta, Medical Officer, Psychiatrist, Golaghat.

AGENDA

- Chalking out the framework for the Legal Services Camp tentatively to be held in the month of June, 2021.
- Consultation programme on mental Health Care Act, 2017 with all District Stakeholders

DISCUSSION AND RESOLUTION

Sri V.K. Chandak, Chairman, DLSA, Golaghat has welcomed the members present at the outset of the meeting and thereafter, Secretary, DLSA has read out the agenda of today's meeting.

At the very outset the Chairman, DLSA has allowed to hold the consultation program on Mental Health Care Act, 2017. Dr. Dipak Dutta, M&HO-1 (Psychiatrist) and Dr. Ranjit Hazarika, SDM&HO, Golaghat have stated the under the District Mental Health programme, various programmes has been arranged for sensitizing the people about the mental health issues and in two meeting the Secretary, DLSA, Golaghat was himself present. They have however, stated that in Golaghat District there is no designated NGO or Half-Way Home to take care of the mental patient undergoing treatment. Moreover, there is no fully functional Psychiatric Department in the Swahid Kushal Konwar Civil Hospital, Golaghat as a result treatment of mentally ill patient cannot be done as per protocol and in consequence, they need to be referred to LGBRIMH, Tezpur or to Dibrugarh Medical College. Further, there is absence of dedicated volunteer who could help in discharging assistance to the doctor in pre and post treatment care of such mentally ill patient.

Sri Baisnab, Ld. CJM, Golaghat has stated that cases in which the mentally ill patient need to be taken to the Tezpur are going on smoothly. Sri Panesar, Addl. SP has stated that for transporting the mentally ill patient to Tezpur, the issue of vehicle arises and such vehicle need to be provided

from the District Administration. He is of the opinion that if the services of 108 Ambulances could have been taken it would have been a great succour to them. Ld. SDM&HO Sri Hazarika has assured to look into the matter.

During discussion it has emerged that in providing unidentified and homeless mentally ill persons an issue of appointing of Nominated Representative arises and as per Mental Health Care Act, 2017 the District Health Review Board is the appropriate authority in such case but the Government has not yet notified such Board for Golaghat as of yet. It has resolved unanimously to request the Hon'ble Member Secretary, ASLSA to take up the matter with the appropriate department for notifying a District Board.

After giving a patient hearing to the problem raised by Dr. Dipak Dutta, Hon'ble Chairman, DLSA has asked the Secretary, DLSA to rope in the service of Para-Legal Volunteers in appropriate cases of giving care to the mentally ill patient. Further, it has resolved to request the Hon'ble Member Secretary, ASLSA for taking up the matter with appropriate department for setting up of designated NGOs and Half-way Home for mentally ill person.

With this discussion the consultation program on Mental Health Care Act,2017 is announced to be concluded by the Hon'ble Chairman.

The Secretary, DLSA has informed the members present that he had conducted the following awareness programme in the Month of March, 2021.

- (i) Attended function observing of World Health Day on 07.04.2021 at Urban Health Centre, Tenpur, Golaghat organised by District Health Society, Golaghat.
- (ii) On 10th April 2021, National Lok Adalat was held at the premises of the District & Sessions Judge, Golaghat, where out of 5851 Nos. of pre-litigation cases (i.e of Banks, Electricity Dept., BSNL) 875 Nos. of pre-litigation cases were disposed and out of 268 Nos. of pending Court cases 27 Nos. of pending cases were disposed of with an amount of Rs.1,18,07,338/- and Rs.10,419,290/- respectively have been settled in the Lok Adalat.
- (iii) On 19.04.2021, the DLSA, Golaghat also conducted a Covid Vaccine drive at Golaghat District Court Building for the Judicial Officers, Staffs and the Advocates aged above 45 years of the Golaghat Bar Association. One more vaccination drive was undertaken at Jallan Bhawan, Golaghat. In both the programme total 380 Nos. of people had been vaccinated.
- (iv) The theme for this year's Earth Day is "Restore Our Earth" which focuses on natural processes and emerging green technologies that can restore the world's ecosystems. The learned Secretary and the staff of DLSA, Golaghat observed Earth Day on 22.04.2021 at the office campus by planting plant saplings.
- (v) On 17th April, the Ld. Secretary, DLSA, Golaghat visited the One Stop Centre and Special Adoption Agency in Golaghat District.
- (vi) As per the direction of NALSA an awareness drive is undertaken through electronic media publishing Helpline Nos. 15100/6901281631 so that people can utilise the service during this pandemic situation.

Hon'ble Chairman has informed the members that, on his last visit to the Golaghat Hon'ble Portfolio Judge, Hon'ble Gauhati High Court has expressed his desire to hold a Legal Services Camp in the Golaghat District for which a suitable place need to be identified. Sri Kuri, Secretary, DLSA has given an overview of the contour of the proposed legal services camp. After discussion on the nature of the program and probable number of participant, Sri Panesar, Addl. SP (HQ) Golaghat has proposed that Wokha T.E would be a suitable place to hold the meeting. Accordingly, Hon'ble Chairman, DLSA has expressed his desire to visit the site before giving his final consent. It has resolved to fix a date of visit the site post Assembly Election Counting schedule to be held on 2nd of May,2021.

Although lockdown has not been announced but there is strict restriction on gathering of people by the Government due to Covid situation. As such Secretary, DLSA has been urged to restrict the holding of the awareness program and if possible to hold it in virtual mode in suitable cases.

The meeting is ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



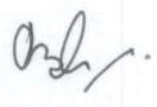
(Sri V.K. Chandak, AJS)
District & Sessions Judge-cum-
Chairman, DLSA, Golaghat



(Sri K.L. Baishnab, AJS)
Chief Judicial Magistrate, Golaghat



(Sri N. Kuri, AJS)
Secretary, DLSA, Golaghat



(Sri Roktim Boruah, ACS)
Addl. District Commissioner, Golaghat



(Sri S. S. Paneswar, APS)
Addl. Superintendent of Police, Golaghat.