

Video Conferencing facility for the Jail Inmates

The facility of Video conferencing between Jail inmates and Legal Services Panel Lawyers is being provided in the State of Himachal Pradesh. But, as per information collected from all the District Legal Services Authorities and sent to NALSA, no Legal Services Panel Lawyers have had any interaction with the Jail inmates through video conferencing during existent COVID-19 pandemic.

It appears that the jail inmates are not fully aware about this facility and there appears to be a lack of coordination and motivation.

In this background, **Hon'ble the Executive Chairman** directed that jail inmates be made aware of the facility of video conferencing during legal awareness programmes for the Jail inmates and the Jail Authorities be sensitized to ensure that the benefit of this facility is availed by the Jail inmates. Legal Services Panel Lawyers be impressed upon for frequent use of this facility to interact with the jail inmates in legal aid cases.

In order to facilitate Video Conferencing of the Jail Inmates with Legal Services Panel Lawyers, contact number of Legal Services Panel Lawyers engaged by District Legal Services Authorities/Sub Divisional Legal Services Committees to prosecute or defend the cases of Jail inmates be made available in the Jail Clinics or with the Jail Superintendent of the Jail for information of the Jail inmates.

The Secretary, District Legal Services Authority being Principal Officer of District Authority will have overall coordination with the stakeholders to secure maximum use of the facility of Video Conferencing for the benefits of the Jail inmates.