CHAPTER- II

ORGANISATION, FUNCTIONS AND WORKING OF LOK ADALATS IN HARYANA

There are twenty nine States and seven Union Territories comprising the Union of India and each State has also a separate Legal Services Authority constituted under the National Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.¹ Haryana State has a Legal Services Authority (H.S.L.S.A.) with its head office in sector 14, Punchkula is the successor body of the Haryana State Legal Services and Advice Committee which is governed by the Haryana State Grant of Free Legal Services and Advice to the Poor Rules, 1982. Later on, the Haryana State Legal Services Authority Rules, 1996 read with the Haryana Legal Services Authority (Transaction of Business and other Provisions) Regulations, 1998 now govern the functioning of this authority.²

Organisation Defined

In Public Administration organisation means formal structure of a hierarchical authority through which work sub-divisions are arranged, defined and coordinated to achieve defined organisational objectives. Infact, it is a group of people who are working together for accomplishing predetermined common goals and objectives through collective efforts. In other words, organisation is one of the essential elements of administration. It facilitates the proper utilisation of men, money, materials, machinery and methods for achieving defined objectives. Hence, there can be no administration without organisation. In this context, Dimock and Dimock had
stated that “Organisation is the basic tool by means of which the administrative process is kept operating.”

According to Luther Gulick, “Organisation is the formal structure of authority through which work sub-divisions are arranged, defined and coordinated for the defined objectives.”

In the words of Mooney stated that “Organisation is the form of every human association for the attainment of a common purpose.”

According to Urwick, “Organisation is determining what activities are necessary to any purpose and arranging them in groups, which may be assigned to individuals.”

According to Simon, “By Organisation, we mean a plane system of cooperative effort, in which each participant has a recognized role to play, duties and tasks to perform.”

In the words of Morstein, “Organisation as structure developed for carrying out the tasks entrusted to chief executive and his administrative subordinate in the government.”

**Types of Organisation**

There are two types of organisations formal and informal.

**Formal Organisation**

Formal organisations are based on rules and regulations for attaining definite organisational goals and objectives. These are enacted and assigned by legal authority. Indeed, such type of organisations are men made or artificial.

**Informal Organisation**

There are no rules and regulations while these organisations are natural and based on informal relations. All are equal in these organisations.
Organisation is a plan of action which ensures fulfilment of purpose or purposes which a group of individuals has set for realization and towards the attainment of which all of them are collectively bending their energies. It is not merely a structure, it also embraces human beings who run it in order to achieve the pre-considered objectives.³

**Organisation of Lok Adalats**

Lok Adalats are organised as per the provisions of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 at the central level the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC), the High Courts Legal Services Committee (HCLSC), State Legal Services Authority (SLSA), District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) and Sub-Division Legal Services Committee (SDLSC). Every Lok Adalat organised for an area shall consist of retired judicial officers and other persons of the area as may be specified by the NALSA, SCLSC, HCLSC, SLSA, DLSA and SDLSC for organising the Lok Adalats. The experience and qualifications of other members are provisioned in clause (b) of Sub-Section (2) of the Act, 1987 for Lok Adalats by the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee. Lok Adalat other than referred to in Sub-Section (3) of the Act, 1987 shall be such as may be prescribed by the State Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court. Lok Adalat shall have its own jurisdiction to arrive at a compromise or settlement of disputes between the parties in respect of any case pending before and any matter which falling be prescribed by the Central Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of India. The qualifications and experience of the members referred with the jurisdiction of and is not brought before any court for which Lok Adalats are organised.⁴
Organisational - Structure

National Legal Services Authority

State Legal Services Authority

Supreme Court Legal Services Committee

District Legal Services Authority

High Court Legal Services Committee

Taluka or Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committee

National Level

National Legal Services Authority

The Act of 1987 empowers the Union Government to constitute the National Legal Services Authority to exercise the powers and functions as conferred by the Act of 1987. The Act also empowers the Government of India to frame rules and regulations to carry out the provisions as enumerated in the Section 3 (2) of the Act, 1987 prescribed that the Authority like NALSA shall consist of the following members are:

- The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall be the Patron-in-Chief of the Authority;
• A serving or retired judge of the Supreme Court to be 
nominated by the President of India, in Consultation with the 
Chief Justice of Supreme Court to exercise powers and 
functions as Executive Chairman of NALSA;
• Other panel members, possessing such experience and 
qualifications, as may be prescribed by the Union 
Government, to be nominated by the Central Government in 
consultation with the Chief Justice of Supreme Court;
• The Act also empowers the Union Government to appoint 
Member Secretary of the NALSA in consultation with the 
Chief Justice of Supreme Court to exercise powers and 
perform duties under the Executive Chairman;
• For maintaining cooperation and coordination among 
authorities that progress made in the implementation of 
various legal services programmes at all levels. As per rules 
of the Act, 1987, it is also prescribes that the Central 
Authority shall Consist of not more than 12 members 
including the Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs under 
the Ministry of Law Justice and Company affairs and 
Secretary, Department of Expenditure under the Ministry of 
Finance or his, nominee, because finance is backbone for a 
organisation to move smooth functioning; and
• The Act has made it clear that all the administrative expenses 
of the Central Authority shall be defrayed out of the 
Consolidated Fund of India under the Article 266. The Act 
has also empowered the Central Authority should work in co- 
ordination with other lowest authorities established at Central 
Level, State Level, District Level and Sub-Division Level. It
also provides, that the Central Authority should, co-ordinate with other Governmental and non-Governmental agencies like NGO and local bodies Universities, civil society, to promote public awareness regarding free legal services to the poor and needy.\textsuperscript{5}

\begin{center}
\textbf{Supreme Court Level}
\end{center}

\textbf{Supreme Court Legal Services Committee}

The Supreme Court Legal Services Committee is constituted as per the Section 3A of the Act, 1987. The Act also empowered the Central Authority to constitute a Committee at the Supreme Court to provide access to justice to the poor people. The Act prescribed for the formation of a Committee consisting of one serving or retired judge of the Supreme Court and other members possessing such qualifications and experience as would be prescribed by the Act, 1987. The Supreme Court Legal Services Committee Regulations 1996 prescribe the detailed guidelines for the functioning of the Committee at the Supreme Court level.\textsuperscript{6}

\textbf{Powers and Functions}

The powers and functions of the Act are:

\begin{itemize}
\item implementing the legal services programs and issuing directions to the lower authorities from time to time;
\item receiving and scrutinizing application for legal services and to decide all questions as to the grant of or withdrawal of legal services;
\item maintaining panels of the advocates on records and of senior advocates in Supreme Court (SC);
\item deciding all matters relating to payments of honorarium,
\end{itemize}
costs, charges and expenses of legal services to the advocates on record and to senior advocates of the Supreme Court; and

- making policy and programmes for promoting better legal services to the common man under the provisions of this Act;
- utilising the funds at its disposal and make appropriate allocations of funds to the State Authorities and District Authorities;
- framing the most effective and economical schemes for the purpose of making legal services available under the provisions of the Act;
- taking necessary steps by way of social justice litigation with regard to consumer protection, environmental protection or any other matter of special concern, to the weaker sections of the society and for this purpose, give training to social workers in legal skills;
- organising legal aid camps, especially in rural areas, slums or labour colonies with the dual purpose of educating the weaker sections of the society as to their rights as well as encouraging the settlement of disputes through Lok Adalats;
- encouraging the settlement of disputes by way of negotiations, arbitration and conciliation;
- promoting research in the field of legal services with special reference to the need for such services among the poor;
- ensuring commitment to the fundamental duties of citizens under part IV-A of the Constitution;
- monitoring and evaluating implementation of the legal aid programs at periodic intervals and provide for independent
evaluation of programs and schemes implemented in whole or in part by funds provided under the Act;

- recommending to the Central Government grants-in-aid for specific schemes to various voluntary social welfare institutions set up at State, District and Sub-Division, level for the implementation of the legal services schemes under the provisions of the Act;

- developing, in consultation with the Bar Council of India, programs for clinical legal literacy and promote guidance and supervise the establishment and working of legal services clinics legal supported centers, universities and law colleges;

- taking appropriate measures for spreading legal literacy and legal awareness amongst the poor people and educate weaker sections of the society about their rights, benefits and privileges guaranteed by social welfare legislations;

- making special efforts to enlist the support of voluntary social welfare institutions working at the grassroots level, particularly among the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, women and rural and urban labour;

- coordinating and monitor the functioning of Sate and District Authorities and other voluntary social welfare institutions and other legal services organisations and give general directions for the proper implementation of the legal services programs; and

- preparing and submitting returns, report and statistical information in regard to the legal services programmes to the Union Government.
State Level

State Legal Services Authority

At the State level, the Act has also empowered the State Government to constitute the State Legal Services Authority to exercise the power and perform the functions under the Act, of 1987. The Act also provides guidelines for appointment of the Member-Secretary at the State level. The State Governments have been empowered to provide the terms of office and other conditions relating to the Members and Member Secretary and other officers and members required for the efficient functioning of the authority to exercise its functions under the Act, 1987. It has also specified that all administrative expenditure of the State Legal Services Authority should be defrayed out of the Consolidated Fund of the State as for the provisions at the Act of 1987. It is made obligatory on the part of the State Authority to give effect provide time to time directions to the lower Authorities. The Act prescribe that the State Legal Services Authority shall consist of the panel members are:

- Chief Justice of the High Court who shall be the Patron-in-Chief;
- A serving or retired Judge of the High Court, to be nominated by the Governor, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court, who shall be the Executive Chairman, and
- Qualifications as may be prescribed by the State Government to be nominated by that Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court at the state level.
Functions

Functions to be performed by the State Legal Services Authority are as laid down by Section 7 (1) and 7 (2) at the Act, 1987 for ensuring effective coordination with Governmental, non-Governmental agencies, voluntary social services institutions, universities and local bodies. The State Legal Services Authority also play a crucial role to provide free legal services to the poor and needy people.

Meeting of the State Authority

As per the Act of 1987 the State Authority shall meet once in every three months of a year the Executive Chairman may convene a meeting of the State Authority whenever any business is to be transacted according to the necessity and requirement.

Funds

As per the Section16 (1) of Legal Services Authority Act, 1987 for smooth functioning and effective administration of funds of the State Legal Services Authority is comprised of the following funds are:

- An amounts as received in the form of costs, charge and expenses recovered from the persons of whom legal service is provided or the opposite party;
- All the amounts credited to the State Legal Aid Fund shall be deposited in a Nationalised Bank.
- For the purpose of meeting incidental minor charges, such as Court fee, stamps and expenditure necessary for obtaining copies of documents and contingent expenditure. As
permanent advance of rupees three thousand shall be placed at the disposal of the Member Secretary of the State authority.

- All expenditure necessary for carrying out the various functions of the State authority including expenses required for meeting shall be incurred out of the funds of the State authority with the approval of the Member Secretary power of and

- The Member Secretary shall have the accounts and other relevant records of the receipts and expenditure to be maintained properly in accordance with the rules and regulations are given by the CAG of India to the State authorities per the provisions of the Act of 1987.

**High Court Level**

**High Court Legal Services Committee**

The Act also provisioned that State Government has given powers to constitute High Court Legal Services Committee, which shall consist of a sitting Judge of the High Court, who shall be the Chairman, and with the advices given by Chief Justice of the High Court other members as may be determined by the State Government. The Members of the High Court Legal Services Committee are:

- Advocate General, Punjab;
- Advocate General, Haryana;
- Chairman, Bar Council for the States of Punjab and Haryana;
- President, High Court Bar Association, Chandigarh;
• Home Secretary, Chandigarh Administration and
• The Chief Justice may nominate other members not exceeding five from amongst persons possessing the experience and qualifications specified in Sub-Regulation.\textsuperscript{9}

**Terms and Conditions**

The term and conditions of the members are given below:

• As per the Sub-Regulation of the Act, 1987, shall be of two years and such members shall be nominated for eligible for re-nomination;

• A social worker who is engaged in the upliftment of the underprivileged sections of the society including Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, women, children, rural and urban labour;

• An eminent person in may be nominated, who have the specialization in the field of law or Public Administration; and

• A reputed person may also nominated who is especially interested in the implementation of the legal services schemes.\textsuperscript{10}

**Removal**

A nominated member under Sub-Regulation at the Act may be removed by the Chief Justice of the High Court on the following grounds are:

• If any members fails without sufficient cause to attend three consecutive meetings of the Committee;

• Has been adjudged as insolvent;
• Has been found in an offence which in the opinion of the Chief Justice involves moral turpitude;
• Has become physically and mentally incapable of acting as a member; and
• Has been found as abused his position. 11

Functions of the Committee

Subject to the general administration and control to the State authority, the High Court Committee shall exercise the following powers and functions are laid down in the Act. It shall be the duty of the Committee to give effect to such policies, programs, schemes and direction level authority regarding of the Legal Aid, Legal Advice and Legal Services as may be formulated and implemented by the Central Authority and the State Authorities. 12

The functions of the committee are:

• to provide legal aid and legal Services to persons who are eligible under provisions the Act and under the rules for the High Court cases;
• to organise Lok Adalat at the High Court level;
• to encourage to the parties for settlement of cases by way of negotiations, arbitration and conciliation; and
• to perform such functions which may be delegated to it from time to time by the State authority for enhancing interest of common man. 13
**Secretary**

The Secretary of the Committee will be paid honorarium of Rs. 1,000 per month and such amount as may be fixed by the Chairman for the performance of the functions and discharge of the duties as Secretary. The Secretary of the Committee shall be the principal officer of the Committee at High Court level and shall be the custodian of the assets, accounts, records and funds of the Committee and shall work under the supervision and direction of the Chairman of the High Court Committee.

Maintain or cause to be maintained true and proper accounts of receipts and disbursements of the funds of the Committee in such form manner as may be specified by the State authority exercise such power and perform such functions as well as discharge such duties as may be assigned to him by the Chairman, and perform all other acts as may be expedient and necessary for efficient and proper performance of functions and discharge duties of the Committee.  

**Transactions of Business**

The Committee shall ordinarily meet once in every three months on such date and at such place as may be fixed by the Secretary with the prior approval of the Chairman. The following are transactions of business of the Committee:

- All policy and other important matters shall be brought before the State Authority for considerations and decision.
- Any specific matter or matters as may be desired or required by the Committee, generally or otherwise, to be placed before
it, shall be brought before the Committee for its consideration and decision.

- A meeting of Committee shall be presided over by the Chairman.

- The quorum for a meeting shall be five members including the Chairman.

- For every meeting of the Committee, at least two weeks notice shall be given to the members to attend the meeting however an emergent meeting may be convened by the Secretary in the accordance with the directions of the Chairman on the short notice.¹⁵

In respect of emergent matters, the Chairman may exercise the power and perform the functions and discharge the duties of the Committee. All such matters shall however be placed before the Committee for its information and approval.

**Funds, Accounts and Audit**

As per the Act of 1987 the Committee shall be maintained the fund of the High Court Legal Services Committee. The funds, accounts and audit of the Committee are given below.¹⁶

- An amount as may be granted to it by the State Authority of Punjab, Haryana and Union Territory of Chandigarh as per the requirement made by the Hon’ble Chief Justice in consultation with Executive Chairmen of the State Authorities of Punjab, Haryana and Union Territory of Chandigarh.

- All the amount such as received by the Committee in the form of donations, costs, charges and expense recovered from, the
persons to whom legal services are provided.

- All the amounts credited to the fund shall be deposited in a nationalized bank.

- For the purpose of meeting incidental minor charge, such as court fee, stamps and expenditure necessary for obtaining copies of documents etc. An advance of Rupees two thousand five hundred shall be placed at the disposal of the Secretary of Committee of the High Court.

- All expenditure which includes accommodation, TA, and DA of the staff of the Committee may be allowed for carrying out the various functions of the Committee shall be incurred out of the funds of the Committee with the prior approval of the Chairman.

- The funds of the Committee may be utilised for expenses for meeting and incidental journey to be undertaken by the Chairman and other members of the Committee shall be considered as legal services activities;

- The traveling allowance and dearness allowance may be payable to the Chairman, as ex-officio member and the Secretary shall be such to which they are entitled by virtue of their respective offices.

- The Secretary of the Committee shall be operating the bank accounts of the Committee in accordance under the directions of the Chairman.

- The Committee shall also responsible to maintain regular accounts of receipts, disbursement of income and submit annual returns to State Authorities of Punjab, Haryana and
Union Territory of Chandigarh and account shall be subject to audit as per Section 18 of the Act of 1987. 

**District Level**

**District Legal Services Authority**

At the district level, there exists the authority which is called as District Legal Services Authority. The District and Session Judge or senior most Additional District and Session Judge or senior most judicial officer is the Chairman and the Chief Judicial Magistrate or Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate of every district is the Secretary of the authority. 

**Functions of the District Authority**

The specified functions of the authority are:

- The legal services shall be provided within the district to a person who satisfy the criteria under the Act, 1987. District authority may assign the functions of providing legal services to Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committees with their respective jurisdiction within the district and conduct legal literacy camps in different parts of the district.

- Implement the legal literacy programmes in so far as it relates to the courts within the district and for this purpose, take all such steps as may be necessary for increasing awareness about free legal services to the poor with the directions issued by the Central authority or the State authority from time to time for ensuring better legal services to provide speedy and inexpensive justice to the masses.
• Set-up of various legal aid clinics in different parts of the district in collaboration with law colleges, Universities, social and religious organisations.

• Direction, Supervision and guide the working of the Sub-Divisional Committees in the district from time to time according to situation and requirement.

• Reports from the Sub-Divisional Committees in the district like periodical reports, returns and other statistics information as it may think fit as per required by the State authority.

• Prepare and submit returns, reports and statistic information in regards to the legal services programs to the State authority for ensuring transparency in justice delivery system.18

Terms and Conditions of Members

Terms of office and other conditions relating to the members of the District Authority are:

• The terms of the office of a member of district authority shall be nominated for two years and they shall be eligible for re-nominations.

• No member shall be removed from the district authority on the grounds specified therein without consultation with the Chief Justice.

• Any member may, given hand written resignation addressed to the Chairman, and resignation shall take effect on the expiry of a period of 30 days from the date of tendering resignations.

• A nominated member cases to be member of the district authority for any reason, the vacancy shall be filled up on the
manner and from the source from which the same originally filled under Clause (4) of Rule 15 of the Act.

- All nominated members shall be paid as traveling allowance and daily allowance in respect of journey performed in connection with the meetings of district authority and shall be paid by the district authority in accordance with the rules as are applicable to the class I officers of the Haryana Government as amended from time to time and

- The Ex-officio members shall be entitled to traveling allowance and daily allowance from his department as per the rules and regulations.

**Removal**

A nominated member of the District Authority under Clause (b) of Rule 13 may be removed on the basis of the following grounds are:

- A nominated members fails without sufficient found absent for three consecutive meeting of the district authority or five meetings held within the span of two years;
- has been adjudged as insolvent;
- has been convicted of an offence which in the opinion of the State authority involves moral turpitude;
- has become incapable of acting as a members ;and
- has a note abuse his positions as to render his continuance in the district authority pre-judicial to the public interest.\(^{19}\)

**Powers and Functions of Chairman**

The Chairman of the district authority shall be in overall in-charge of administration and implementation of the district authority. The powers and functions of the Chairman are:
The Chairman shall call meeting of the district authority convened through the Secretary of the district authority at least once in a period of three months particularly in year.

The Chairman shall preside over all the meetings of the district authority as per requirements a district level.

The Chairman shall have all the executive powers of the district authority.20

Secretary of the District Authority

The Secretary appointed under Sub-Section (3) of Section 9 of the Act shall be the principal officer of the district authority. He shall he paid Rs. 500/- as honorarium or at such rate as may be determined by the Executive Chairman of the State authority.

The Secretary shall be maintained true and proper accounts of receipts and disbursement of the funds of the district authority.

The Secretary shall convene meeting of the district authority with the previous approval of the Chairman of the district authority and shall also attend meetings and shall be responsible for maintaining a record of the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting.21

Meetings

The district authority shall meet at least once in three month of a year. The date and place are determined by the Chairman of the district authority. All the meetings of the district authority shall be presided over by the Chairman. The minutes of the meetings shall be recorded under the direction given by the chairman of the authority and forwarded to the State authority. The quorum for the
meeting shall be three including the Chairman. All questions which come up before any meeting of the district authority, shall be decided by the majority of votes of the members present and voting and if there is a tie, then the Chairman shall also have casting vote.

Funds of the District Authority

Funds and maintenance there of the district authority as per Section 17 (1) of the Act are as follows:

- An amounts as received by way of costs, charges and expenses recovered from the persons to whom legal services are provided or the opposite party;
- An the amounts credited to the District Legal Aid fund shall be deposited in a nationalised bank;
- All expenditure necessary for carrying out the various functions of the District Authority or Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committee including expenditure necessary for meeting shall be incurred out of the funds of the district authority with the approval of the Chairman of the authority;
- The funds of the district authority may be utilized for meeting the expenses incurred with the permission given by the Chairman or other members of the district authority or the Secretary in connections with legal services activities;
- The traveling allowance and daily allowance payable to the Chairman, the, Ex-officio members and the Secretary shall be such as to which they are entitled by virtue of their respective offices;
- The Secretary shall operate the bank accounts of the district authority in accordance with the directions of the Chairman;
• The district authority shall cause to be kept and maintained true and correct accounts of all receipts and disbursements furnished quarterly returns to the State authority; and

• For the purpose of meeting incidental minor charges like court fee, stamps and expenditure necessary for obtaining copies of documents, etc. An advance of Rs. 2,000 may be placed at the disposal of cases to the Secretary. District Legal Services Authority funds are incurred out of the District Legal Aid Fund.  

Sub-Divisional Level

Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committee

In all there are 62 Sub-Divisions in the State of Haryana, where judicial courts are functioning. The Sub- Divisional level, the existing authority is called Sub- Divisional Legal Services Committee. The senior most judicial officer of the Sub- Division is the Chairman of the Committee. This provision for formation of such Committee was not there in the original 1987 Act but subsequently the provision was incorporated so as provide access to justice at the grass-root level. The provision relating to formation of Taluk Legal Services Committee is enumerated in Section 11A of the Act, 1987. It mandates State Authority to constitute Taluka or Sub-Divisional Committee consisting of a senior Civil Judge operating within the jurisdiction of such Committee who shall function as an ex-officio Chairman of the Committee and with other Members. Administrative expenses of the Committee shall be defrayed out of the District Legal Aid Fund.  

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Terms and Conditions

The term of the office and other conditions relating to the members of the Sub-Divisional Committee are:

- The term of the office of a member of the Sub-Divisional Committee, shall be two years and they are also eligible for re-nomination;
- Notwithstanding anything contained in Sub-Rule (2) No member shall be removed from the Sub-Divisional Committee on the specified grounds without consultation with chief justice;
- Any member in writing form under his hand addressed to the chairman, resign from the Sub-Divisional Committee and such resignation shall take effect on the expiry of a period of 30 days from the date of tendering resignation;
- A nominated member ceases to be member of the Sub-Divisional Committee for any reason, the vacancy shall be filled up in the manner and from the sources from which same was originally filled under Clause (4) of Rule 18;
- The nominated members shall be entitled to payment of traveling allowance and daily allowance in respect of journeys performed in connection with the meeting of the Sub-Divisional Committee and shall be paid by the district authority in accordance with the rules are as applicable to the class I officers of the Haryana Government as amended from time to time; and
- The ex-officio member has also paid as travelling allowance and daily allowance either from his parent department or as the case may be from the district authority.25
Removal

A member of the Sub-Divisional Committee nominated under Clause (b) of Rule 18 may be removed by the State Government the following grounds are:

- if he or she fails, without sufficient cause to attend three consecutive meeting of the Sub-Divisional Committee or five meetings held within the span of two years;
- has been adjudged as insolvent;
- has been convicted of an offence which in the opinion of the Sub-Division Committee involves moral turpitude;
- has become incapable of acting as a member; and
- has misused his position as to render his continuance in the Sub-Divisional Committee prejudicial to the public interest. ²⁶

Functions

In addition to the functions assigned to it under the Act, 1987 and Rules, the Sub-Divisional Committee shall perform such other functions and discharge such other duties as the District Authority or the State Authority may entrust to it from time to time. The following functions have been entrusted with the Taluk of Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committee:

- co-ordinating the activities of legal services in Taluk,
- organising Lok-Adalat within Taluk; and
- performing such other functions as the District Authority, may assign for ensuring betterment of people.

Meeting

The meeting of the Sub-Divisional Committee are given below:
• The Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committee shall ordinary meet once in two months on such date, at such place as the Chairman may decide as per the provisions of the Act, 1987;
• The Chairman and in the absence of the Chairman, next senior most Civil Judge shall preside at the meeting of the Sub-divisional Legal Services Committee;
• The minutes of the proceedings of each meeting shall be maintained by the Chairman and any other person may be authorised by him and shall as soon as may be sent to the district authority and the State authority;
• The quorum for the meeting shall be three including the Chairman;
• The quarries of the meeting of the Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committee shall be decided by the majority of the members present and voting in case of tie, the person presiding shall have second or casting vote; and
• All matters requiring confirmation from the Chairman of Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committee by the virtue of the Act or rules shall be placed before the Committee from time to time.27

Funds

The funds and expenses of the Sub-Divisional Legal Services are given below:
• The expenses of the Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committee for performing its functions shall be met out of District Legal Aid Fund.
• For the purpose of meeting incidental minor charges which includes court fee, stamps and expenditure necessary for obtaining copies of documents. A permanent advance of rupees one thousand may be placed at the disposal of the Chairman of the Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committee. and
• Any other expenses which are required to be met by the State Legal services authority.

**Accounts and Audit**

Accounts and audit are maintained by SDLSC under its procedure as per the Act, 1987 are as follows:
• The Central Authority, State Authority and the District Authority shall maintain proper accounts and other relevant records and prepare an annual statement of accounts including the income, expenditure, account and the balance-sheet in such manner as may be prescribed by the Union Government consultation with the CAG of India;
• The Accounts of the authorities shall be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India at such intervals as may be specifies by him and expenditure incurred in connection with such audit shall be payable by the authority concerned to Comptroller Auditor General of India;
• The Comptroller and Auditor General of India and any other person appointed by him in connection with the auditing of the accounts of a authority under this act shall have the same powers.
• The accounts of the authorities as certified by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India or any other person appointed
by him in this behalf together with the audit report thereon shall be forwarded annually by the Authorities to the Government of India and the State Government;

- The State Government shall cause the accounts and the audit report received by SDLSC under Sub-Section (4) of the Act; and

- To be laid as soon as may be after they are received before the State legislature.\textsuperscript{28}

**Working**

Haryana State Legal Services Authority has leveraged the important mechanism of Lok Adalats as an effective Alternative Disputes Resolution (ADR) method for ensuring quick and final consensual disposal of pending cases without any extra cost or fees binding on the both parties. During the period from 1.1.2008 to 31.12.2008 District Legal Services Authorities and Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committees under direction and control of Haryana State Legal Services Authority organised 465 Lok Adalats including Special Lok Adalats on an old pattern in the State of Haryana wherein 3,47,993 cases of all categories were decided. Out of these, 43,993 were Motor Accident Claim cases in which amount of Rs.59,09,67,671 was disbursed as compensation to the accident victims or their dependents.\textsuperscript{29}

**Rural Lok Adalats**

Haryana State Legal Services Authority has organised Rural Lok Adalats in the villages to provide speedy and inexpensive justice to the people at their door-steps by amicable resolution of their disputes through mediation by the reputed person of the villages. In Rural Lok Adalats, all the pending cases in the courts as
well as cases at pre-litigative stage of such village and adjoining villages are taken up for settlement.

During the period from 1.1.2009 to 31.12.2009 District Legal Services Authorities and Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committees under direction and control of Haryana State Legal Services Authority organised 440 Rural Lok Adalats wherein 17,443 cases of all categories were decided. Out of these 1,013 were Motor Accident Claim cases in which an amount Rs. 20,33,000 was disbursed as compensation to the accident victims.\(^{30}\)

**Permanent and Continuous Lok Adalats (Samjhauta Sadan)**

In order to make the forum of Lok Adalats available to the people as Alternative Disputes Resolution forum on permanent and continuous basis, Haryana State Legal Services Authority has set up Permanent and Continuous Lok Adalats (Samjhauta Sadans) headed by retired judicial officers in 10 districts i.e. Ambala, Faridabad, Gurugram, Hisar, Karnal, Panchkula, Rewari, Rohtak, Jhajjar, Sirsa and in the remaining districts and Sub-Divisions Permanent and Continuous Lok Adalats (Samjhauta Sadans) are headed by sitting judicial officers in the Sub-Divisions by rotational system.

During the period from 1.1.2009 to 30.11.2009 Permanent and Continuous Lok Adalats (Samjhauta Sadans) decided 8,072 cases. Out of 8,072 cases, 26 cases were Motor Accidents Claim cases in which amount of Rs. 89,30,000 was disbursed as compensation to the accident victims and amount of Rs. 98,69,012 was realized in 59 pending bank loan cases and 162 bank loan cases at pre-litigated stage.\(^{31}\)
Permanent Lok Adalats (Public Utility Services)

Pursuant to amendment of the National Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 by the Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Act, 2002 chapter VIA containing Sections 22-A to 22-E was inserted. On initiative of Haryana State Legal Services Authority, the Haryana Government sanctioned establishment of four Permanent Lok Adalats pertaining to public utility services at the four divisional headquarters namely, Ambala, Rohtak, Gurugram and Hissar with jurisdiction in the revenue division of their location.32

Public Utility Services (PUS) as defined by Section 22A (b) of the Act of 2002 means any:

- transport services for carriage of passengers or goods by air, road and water;
- postal, telegraph or telephonic service;
- supply of power, light, water to the public by the establishment;
- system of public conservancy or sanitation;
- service in hospital or dispensary;
- insurance service;
- housing, estate, banking; and
- banking.

Four Permanent Lok Adalats (Public Utility Services) are functioning in the State of Haryana at Ambala, Rohtak, Gurugram and Hissar. During the period from 1.1.2010 to 30.11.2010 Permanent Lok Adalats pertaining to public utility services at Ambala, Gurugram, Hissar and Rohtak have settled 3,788 cases.33

Position of Pending Cases in The State of Haryana

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The latest position of pending cases in the State of Haryana at the Punjab and Haryana High Court, district and Sub-Divisional level has been presented in Table 2.1.

**Table 2.1**

**Pending Cases in the Courts of Haryana**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courts</th>
<th>Pending Cases</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Civil Cases</td>
<td>Criminal Cases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Court</td>
<td>2,03,288 (71.4)</td>
<td>81,458 (28.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Courts</td>
<td>2,34,233 (44.2)</td>
<td>2,96,419 (55.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Divisional Courts</td>
<td>2,00,136 (29.4)</td>
<td>4,80,252 (70.6)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The National Judicial Data Grid (NSDG)

Note: Brackets are indicated as percentage.

As per the latest position of pending cases in the state of Haryana according to about table 2.1 data reveals that in the Punjab and Haryana High Court 71.4% civil cases and 28.6% criminal cases are pending at the High Court level. As regards at district level 44.2% civil cases and 55.8% criminal cases are also pending. At Sub-Divisional level 29.4% cases of civil as well as 70.6% criminal cases are pending which shows the situation of pending cases in Haryana is alarming.

**Vacancy Position of Judges in Haryana**

An attempt has been made to explore the current vacancy position of judges at the High Court and district level in the State which has been tabulated in 2.2.
Table 2.2
Vacant Posts of Judges in Haryana

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courts</th>
<th>Sectioned Posts</th>
<th>Vacant Posts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High Court</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>39 (45.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Courts</td>
<td>644</td>
<td>132 (20.5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The National Judicial Data Grid (NSDG)
Note: Brackets are indicated as percentage.

It is surprising to note that as many as 39 vacancies of judges of Punjab and Haryana High Court of were lying vacant against sanctioned strength of 85 judges. Out of sanctioned strength of 644 judges of district courts in Haryana. This shows that 20.5% post were lying vacant till October, 2016. In such a situation it is not possible to over come the problem of increasing number of pending cases in the courts moreover, it also affects the working of Lok Adalats in the state of Haryana as it becomes difficult for the judges to bear extra burden because of vacancies. So, the Hypothesis "The posts laying vacant at different level might have affected the working of Lok Adalats in general in India and particular in Haryana" has proved.

District Rohtak

The number of cases settled by Lok Adalats, Rural Lok Adalats and Special Lok Adalats organised by District Legal Services Authority as well as Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committee during the period from 1.1.2000 to 31.12.2000.
Table 2.3
Cases Taken-Up, Settled And Compensation Paid By DLSA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Months</th>
<th>Cases Taken-up</th>
<th>Cases Settled</th>
<th>MACT Cases Settled</th>
<th>Compensation Paid in MACT Cases (in Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan.-Mar.</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>591</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>437988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr.-June</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>651</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>555872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July-Sep.</td>
<td>911</td>
<td>685</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>724897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.-Dec.</td>
<td>980</td>
<td>756</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>813284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3481</td>
<td>2683</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>2532041</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: District Legal Services Authority.

The data presented in Table 2.3 indicated that Lok Adalats organised by DLSAs and SDLSC out of 3481 total cases taken-up during the period from 1.1.2000 to 31.12.2000, 2683 cases were settled. Furthermore, 87 MACT cases were also settled under which Rs. 25,32041 compensation was paid to the victims as compensation. Thus, as many as 77.1 % cases could be settled.

Table 2.4
Cases Taken -UP, Settled And Compensation Paid By
Permanent And Continuous Lok Adalats During 01.01.2001 to 31.12.2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Cases Taken-up</th>
<th>Cases Settled</th>
<th>MACT Cases Settled</th>
<th>Compensation Paid (in Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan.-Mar</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>224568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-Jun</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>336758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-Sep</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>467872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-Dec</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>523908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>677</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>1553106</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: District Legal Services Authority.

80
It is evident from Table 2.4 that Permanent and Continous Lok Adalats organised by DLSA during 1.1.2001 to 31.12.2001 settled 322 (47.6%) cases out of 677 to be cases. As many as 76 MACT cases were also settled and compensation paid was to the tune of Rs.1553106 to the victims.

The number of public utility cases taken-up and settled by Permanent Lok Adalats from 1.1.2002 to 31.12.2002.

**Table 2.5**

**Number of Public Utility Cases Taken –Up And Settled By Permanent Lok Adalats From 1.1.2002 to 31.12.2002.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Months</th>
<th>PUS Cases Taken-up</th>
<th>Settled Cases</th>
<th>Compensation Paid (in Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan -Mar.</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>234526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr – Jun</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>297654</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul. –Sep.</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>333425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.- Dec</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>445367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>768</strong></td>
<td><strong>540</strong></td>
<td><strong>1310972</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: District Legal Services Authority

Table 2.5 show that during the period 1.1.2002 to 31.12.2002, 540 (70.3%) public utility service cases were disposed off by Permanent Lok Adalats out of 768 total cases and an amount of Rs.1310972 was paid to the victims.
Table 2.6

Number of Legal Aid Beneficiaries During 1.1.2003 to 31.12.2003.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>SC</th>
<th>BC</th>
<th>GEN.</th>
<th>WOMEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Mar</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-Jun</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-Sep.</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-Dec</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: District Legal Services Authority.

Data presented in Table 2.6 indicate that during the period from 1.1.2003 to 31.3.2003, 175 beneficiaries belonging to SC category, 190 beneficiaries of BC category, 459 general beneficiaries and 118 women beneficiaries took benefits of free legal aid provided by the Lok Adalats. The number of women beneficiaries remained low as compare to the other categories of beneficiaries and among total only 12.5% were women beneficiaries.

**District Ambala**

The data regarding number of cases settled by Lok Adalats, Rural Lok Adalats and Special Lok Adalats organised by District Legal Services Authority as well as Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committee during the period from 1.1.2000 to 31.12.2000 have been presented in the Table 2.7 below.
Table 2.7

Number of Cases Taken-Up, Settled And Compensation Paid by Lok Adalats, Rural Lok Adalats And Special Lok Adalats During 1.1.2012 to 31.12.2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Months</th>
<th>Cases Taken-up</th>
<th>Cases Settled</th>
<th>MACT Cases Settled</th>
<th>Compensation paid in Rs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Mar</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>341800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-Jun</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>476950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-Sep</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>570000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-Dec</td>
<td>556</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>823110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1403</td>
<td>1037</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>2211860</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: District Legal Services Authority.

It is evident from Table 2.7 that in the year of 2000 Lok Adalats in Ambala District settled 1037 (73.9%) cases out of 1403 cases taken up and 199 cases of MACT were also disposed as well as amount of Rs. 22,11860 was disbursed to the victims.

Table 2.8

Number of Cases Taken-Up And Settled by Permanent And Continuous Lok Adalats (Samjhauta Sadan) From 1.1.2001 to 31.12.2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Months</th>
<th>Cases Taken-up</th>
<th>Cases Settled</th>
<th>MACT Cases Settled</th>
<th>Compensation Paid (in Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Mar</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>234650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-Jun</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>323530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-Sep</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>444658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-Dec</td>
<td>657</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>543870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1657</td>
<td>1156</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>1546708</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: District Legal Services Authority.
The data presented in the Table 2.8 shows that Permanent and Continuous Lok Adalats took 1657 total cases out of which it could settle 1156(69.8%) cases. Besides this, 196 MACT cases also disposed off and Rs. 15,46708 was paid as compensation to the victims.

Table 2.9

**Category-Wise Number of Legal Aid Beneficiaries From 1.1.2002 to 31.12.2002.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Months</th>
<th>SC</th>
<th>BC</th>
<th>GEN.</th>
<th>PH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Mar</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-Jun</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-Sep</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-Dec</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>104</strong></td>
<td><strong>196</strong></td>
<td><strong>285</strong></td>
<td><strong>24</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: District legal services authority.

The data shown in Table 2.9 indicate that Lok Adalats moved fast to provide Legal aid to the poor and needy from 01-01-2002 to 31-12-2002 for enhancing legal literacy awareness among common masses. As many as 285 general, 196 BCs, 104 SCs and 24 Physically Handicapped were provide free legal aid.

**District Hissar**

The number of cases disposed off by the Lok Adalats, Rural Lok Adalats, and Special Lok Adalats Organised by District Legal Services Authority and the Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committee during the period from 1.1.2000 to 31.12.2000 are presented in Table 2.8 below.
Table 2.10

Number of Cases Taken-Up, Settled and Compensation Paid By Lok Adalats, Rural Lok Adalats And Special Lok Adalats During 1.1.2000 to 31.12.2000.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Months</th>
<th>Cases Taken-Up</th>
<th>Cases Settled</th>
<th>MACT Cases Settled</th>
<th>Compensation Paid (in Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Mar</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>375000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-Jun</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>400000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-Sep</td>
<td>529</td>
<td>465</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>591000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-Dec</td>
<td>785</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>686000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1926</td>
<td>1359</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>2052000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: District Legal Services Authority.

Data given in Table 2.10 that during the period from 1.1.2000 to 31.12.2000, Lok Adalats took 1926 total cases and could settle 1359 (70.6%) cases. 153 MACT cases were also settled and an amount of Rs.20,52000 was paid to the victims.

Table 2.11

Number of Cases Taken-Up And Settled By Permanent And Continuous Lok Adalats (Samjahuta Sadan) 1.1.2001 to 31.12.2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Months</th>
<th>Cases Taken up</th>
<th>Cases Settled</th>
<th>MACT Cases Settled</th>
<th>Compensation Paid (in Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Mar</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>425478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-Jun</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>458960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-Sep</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>529</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>587690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-Dec</td>
<td>723</td>
<td>610</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>643890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2130</td>
<td>1716</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>2116018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: District Legal Services Authority.

It is evident from the Table 2.11 that Permanent and Continuous Lok Adalats handled 2130 total cases and settled
1716 (80.6%) cases as well as 313 cases of MACT were also disposed off and compensation Rs. 1945320 was given to the victims.

Table 2.12

Number of Legal Aid Beneficiaries From 1.1.2002 to 31.12.2002.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>SC</th>
<th>BC</th>
<th>General</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Mar</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-Jun</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-Sep</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-Dec</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>738</td>
<td>243</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: District Legal Services Authority.

Table 2.12 illustrates that the Lok Adalats moved ahead with better growth in imparting legal aid to the beneficiaries belonging to the SC, BC, general and women categories. According to above table 275 beneficiaries were from SC category while 279 were from BC, 738 from General castes and 243 hailed from women category. Consequently, 15.8% of the total covered beneficiaries during the period under references.

**District Gurugram**

The number of cases disposed off by Lok Adalats, Rural Lok Adalats, and Special Lok Adalats organised by District Legal Services Authority as well as Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committee during the period from 1.1.2000 to 31.12.2000.
Table 2.13
Number of Cases Taken-Up, Settled and Compensation Paid by Lok Adalats, Rural Lok Adalats And Special Lok Adalats During 1.1.2000 to 31.12.2000.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Months</th>
<th>Cases Taken-up</th>
<th>Cases Settled</th>
<th>MACT Cases Settled</th>
<th>Compensation Paid (in Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Mar</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>389300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-Jun</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>433991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-Sep</td>
<td>646</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>508173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-Dec</td>
<td>749</td>
<td>594</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>747065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2347</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td>1020</td>
<td>2078529</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: District Legal Services Authority.

Table 2.13 reveals that 1966 (83.8%) cases were settled by Lok Adalats out of total 2347 cases and 1020 cases of MACT were also disposed off and Rs. 20,78529 were given as compensation.

Table 2.14
Number of Cases Taken- Up And Settled By Permanent And Continues Lok Adalats (Samjahuta Sadan) 1.1.2001 to 31.12.2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Months</th>
<th>Cases Taken up</th>
<th>Cases Settled</th>
<th>MACT Cases Settled</th>
<th>Compensation Paid (in Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Mar</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>354560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-Jun</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>445675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-Sep</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>546784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-Dec</td>
<td>653</td>
<td>573</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>767890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>1702</td>
<td>701</td>
<td>2114909</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: District Legal Services Authority.
It is evident from the Table 2.14 that out of 1949 total cases as many as 1702 (87.3%) cases were settled by Permanent and Continuous Lok Adalats. Besides, 701 cases of MACT were also settled as amount of Rs.2114909 was paid as compensation.

**Table 2.15**

**Number of Legal Aid Beneficiaries From 1.1.2002 to 31.12.2002**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Months</th>
<th>SC</th>
<th>BC</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>GEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Mar</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-Jun</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-Sep</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-Dec</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>778</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: District Legal Services Authority.

Data presented in Table 2.15 clearly indicate out of 1153 total the beneficiaries the legal aid was provided to 115 (10%) SC, 146 BCs 114 (99%) women and 778 beneficiaries of General category. The coverage of SC and women beneficiaries was almost equal.

**Table 2.14**

**Number of Cases Taken-Up And Settled By Permanent Lok Adalats (PUS) From 01.04.2005 to 09.11.2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Cases Taken-up</th>
<th>Settled Cases</th>
<th>Cheque-Bounce Cases</th>
<th>MACT Cases Settled</th>
<th>Compensation Paid (in Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1743</td>
<td>928</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>3074215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>1852</td>
<td>1185</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>549</td>
<td>3891512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>1364</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>616</td>
<td>4664949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>2616</td>
<td>1543</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>5288774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>3670</td>
<td>2235</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>676</td>
<td>5508684</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>4767</td>
<td>3227</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>806</td>
<td>6452424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>16597</td>
<td>10482</td>
<td>1472</td>
<td>3869</td>
<td>28880558</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The Haryana Legal Services Authority.
The data in Table 2.16 depict that during 1.4.2005 to 9.11.2010 total cases taken up by Permanent Lok Adalats (PUS) 16597 out of which 10482 cases could be settled and settled 10482 cases. (63.2%). As many as 1472 cheque bounce cases and 3869 cases of MACT were also disposed off under which. Rs.288, 80558 were paid to the victims as compensation.

Table 2.17

Number of Cases Taken –Up And Settled By The Punjab & Haryana High Court Legal Services Committee From March 2006 to April 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Cases Taken-up</th>
<th>Cases Settled</th>
<th>MACT Cases Settled</th>
<th>Compensation Awarded (in Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>3462</td>
<td>2485</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>7074322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>3919</td>
<td>2773</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>8417146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>4235</td>
<td>3176</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>9129048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>4512</td>
<td>3803</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>15739374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>5472</td>
<td>4554</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>29651370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>6133</td>
<td>5157</td>
<td>591</td>
<td>33192975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>27733</td>
<td>21948</td>
<td>2684</td>
<td>103204235</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The High Court Legal Services Committee.

Data presented in Table 2.17 indicate that the Punjab and Haryana High Court Legal Services Committee organized several Lok Adalats under which 27733 total cases were taken up during March 2006 to April 2011 and 21948(79.1%) cases were settled. Beside this, 2684 MACT cases were also settled under which Rs.1032, 04235 were paid as compensation.
Table 2.18
Number of Cases Taken - Up And Settled By H.A.L.S.A.
From 2007 to 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Cases Taken -up</th>
<th>Cases Settled</th>
<th>MACT Cases Settled</th>
<th>Compensation Awarded (in Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>906</td>
<td>739</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>790347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>1069</td>
<td>826</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>976120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>1131</td>
<td>905</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>1048209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1283</td>
<td>1096</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>1110433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>1363</td>
<td>1106</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>1278022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1526</td>
<td>1330</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>1473404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7278</td>
<td>6002</td>
<td>937</td>
<td>6676535</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The Haryana Legal Services Authority.

Table 2.18 reveals that during 2007 to 2012, H.S.L.S.A. organized various Lok Adalats and settled 6002 (82.5%) cases out of 7278 total cases. Moreover, 937 cases of MACT were also disposed off and an amount of Rs. 66,76535 was given as compensation.

Table 2.19
Number of Cases Taken- Up And Settled in The Rural Lok Adalats From 04-02-2006 to 31-12-2012.

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Number of Rural Lok Adalats held</td>
<td>3094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Number of cases Taken-up</td>
<td>187738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Number of cases settled</td>
<td>109688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Number of cases settled in MACT</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Compensation paid in MACT cases</td>
<td>21612207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Number of cases of revenue/mutation</td>
<td>89049</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The Haryana Legal Services Authority.
Table 2.19 shows that 3094 total Rural Lok Adalats were held during 2006 to 2012 under which 187738 cases were taken up and settled cases were 109688 (58.4%). Moreover, 193 cases of MACT were also settled in which Rs.21612207 were disputed as compensation. 89049 revenue/mutation were cases also disposed off by Rural Lok Adalats.

**Table 2.20**

**Statement of Legal Aid Programmes And Schemes in Haryana**
**From 01.03.2003 to 18.08.2013**

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Number of Legal Care and Support Centres</td>
<td>461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Number of Beneficiaries under Legal Care and Support Centres</td>
<td>670121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Number of Legal Literacy Clubs in Govt. schools and colleges</td>
<td>2792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Number of Legal Literacy Clubs in Pvt. Schools and colleges</td>
<td>1045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Number of Para-Legal Volunteers</td>
<td>1844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Number of legal literacy camps organized</td>
<td>3,685</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Haryana Legal Services Authority.

Table 2.20 shows that 461 legal care and support centres were established through which 670121 beneficiaries got benefits 2792 legal literacy clubs were also established in government schools and colleges as well as 1045 clubs were also established in private institutions during the period from 01.03.2003 to 18.08.2013. As Many as 3685 legal literacy camps were also organised.
Table 2.21
Number of Cases Taken–up, Settled And Compensation Given
By Permanent Lok Adalats Working in Premises of High Court
Form 11.1.1999 to 31.03.2014

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Number of cases Taken-up</td>
<td>53,534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Number of cases settled</td>
<td>31,769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>MACT cases settled</td>
<td>1203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Compensation paid in MACT cases (in Rs.)</td>
<td>15,57,52,742</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The High Court Legal Services Committee.

The Permanent Lok Adalats organised in the premises of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, Chandigarh from 11-01-1999 to 31-03-2014 took up 53534 cases, out of which 31769(60.2%) cases were Settled. Beside, 1,769 MACT cases were also settled and an amount of Rs.15, 57, 52,742 was given as compensation to the victims.

Table 2.22
Performance Status of Haryana Lok Adalats From 01-03-1985 to 30-11-2016

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Number of Lok Adalats/Rural/Daily/PLA/Special Lok Adalats held</td>
<td>244000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Number of cases taken-up from all types of Lok Adalats</td>
<td>6674692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Number of cases settled in all type of Lok Adalats</td>
<td>3395598</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Number of MACT cases</td>
<td>50935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Number of Compensation paid in MACT cases (in Rs.)</td>
<td>5947724697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Number of Beneficiaries under Free Legal Aid</td>
<td>121349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Number of Legal Literacy Camps organized</td>
<td>50443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Number of Beneficiaries under Legal Aid/Awareness Camps</td>
<td>19909685</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The Haryana Legal Services Authority.
It is evident from Table 2.22 that in all 244000 total Lok Adalats were organised and 6674692 cases were taken-up by all types of Lok Adalats during 1.3.1985 to 30.11.2012 out of these as many as 3995598 cases were settled. Moreover, 50935 MACT cases were also settled and Rs.59, 47,724697 were given as compensation to the victims. As many as 121349 beneficiaries were benefited under free legal services during in the under reference. Moreover, 50443 legal literacy camps were organised for generating of public awareness. Consequently, there were 19,90,9685 beneficiaries who were benefited under free legal aid and awareness camps.

**Legal Aid**

Legal aid play a crucial role at the pre-litigation stage by providing legal awareness as well as a forum for setting disputes through Alternativet Disputes Resolution (ADR) mechanism including mediation and conciliation even before the affected persons need to reach a court of law. ADR at the pre-litigation stage also includes calling the affected parties at a common place and settling disputes through a mediated interaction in a neutral environment. Help and intervention of respectable may be included where appropriate. Legal aid can also be provided in terms of making (written as well as personal) representations to the relevant authorities for taking timely corrective action and other interventions for redressal of grievances without necessitating litigation. Besides, legal aid can be provided through drafting and filling of petitions, procedural legal work as well as representation in the court itself.
Legal Aid Clinics and Conciliation Centre

The legal aid is Constitutional right of the citizens under Article 39A who are forced to suffer the violations of their rights and are unable to seek redressal for want of proper knowledge, the means and forum where their grievances can be redressed are made aware of the legal aid clinics and other forms which can be used for the purpose of providing consultation. Legal Aid clinics and Conciliation Centre are managed by public spirited persons and these Centre’s are developed in such a manner that they are made more people friendly and if possible in the case related to domestic violence disputes or matrimonial disputes elderly and educated women are involved in these Centre’s who help in the development of society and are more inclined to keep away from the disputes and litigation.35

While constituting the legal aid clinic and conciliation Centres preference is given to the lady advocate who do not have much work in profession but have energy and committed to work and this energy can be channelised for refining the society. At the time choosing the counsels for legal aid clinics preference is given to honest and dedicated lawyers. The educated women have also involved who have interest in helping the society.36

Computer Literacy

Computer and technology are key enablers in the modern society. They are necessary for accessing and sharing of information and knowledge. Literacy of computers and the internet for all the officials involved in the HALSA is an investment and may go a long way in building data into meaningful information. Knowledge of computers can greatly facilitate finding the right
information storing as well as retrieving it. It will facilitate being in touch with the cutting edge development in the relevant fields and share the information with others. It is a fact that access to various judgments and latest legal developments which are much more easily and accessed through computer will get greatly enhanced.37

Prisoners’ Legal Literacy

A person who is lodged in jail has a right to access to the free legal aid. It is not limited to the case for which he is lodged in the jail but also to any other dispute or violation of the right of a prisoner. The prisoner has a right to approach directly to Hon’ble High Court or Hon'ble Supreme Court and for that purpose he can file a petition through the Superintendent of Jail and petition can be drafted with the assistance of legal aid counsel. Legal aid counsels are appointed in each of the district and they are instructed to visit the jail at regular intervals. On some occasions it has been found that legal aid counsels are unable to reach those prisoners who are in actual need of above aid and to meet this draw back there has to close monitoring and it should be ensured that prisoners are aware of the rights available to them, through the panel of legal aid counsels and it should be ensured that the legal aid counsel on their jail visits, and meet the prisoners. It is expected that on their visits they should undertake the responsibility to apprise and awaken the prisoners regarding their legal right and benefits of free legal services.38 This will protect them from various express and aрисities.

Legal Literacy to Under Privileged (LLUP)

Section 12 of the Act defines certain categories of persons entitled to legal aid. LLUP aims at providing those segments of the
society which represent the underprivileged section access as well as enforce their basic human and legal rights. Such people include Below Poverty Line, persons, deserted women, deserted children, trafficked humans, victims of AIDS, deserted senior citizens, and mentally challenged persons, physically handicapped persons and other needy persons. This provision helps in making the target group fully aware to fight for the rights thereof.

**Rural Lok Adalats**

HALSA launched a project 'People's Initiative for Justice' under this project, this authority has planned to involve the public spirited persons for settlement of disputes and to make the villages of Haryana as 'Litigation Free' or at least to bring litigation in the villages to bare minimum legal litigation. In these Rural Lok Adalats handle and settle various cases pending between family members, and neighbours with regarding to property disputes, common land of the village, bank loan cases, petty criminal cases of such villages and adjoining villages. It has been observed that these cases were settled with the intervention of Judges, lawyers, prominent and respectable persons, of the villages, social workers while being members of Lok Adalats. These Rural Lok Adalats are getting good and encouraging response from the villagers and they come in a big way to get their cases settled amicably. These Rural Lok Adalats prove to be effective platform to spread the legal literacy amongst the masses. The schemes regarding free legal aid and legal rights and duties of a common man are being explained to the masses in their local language and through the skits, 'Nukkar-Natak's are being performed by Public Relations Department, Haryana and through documentary film 'Savera' of HALSA.
HALSA has organised Rural Lok Adalats continuously and their future is bright to provide justice to the poor and needy people at their doorsteps. Their success largely depend on the cooperation and initiative of the community.

**Mobile Legal Aid (MLA)**

To further supplement the work of legal aid clinics, the DLSAs can also run mobile legal aid for protecting human rights of common man at the ground level. These MLA teams can move with a pre-determined frequency and greatly facilitate legal literacy and information dissemination pertaining to legal aid. Being mobile, over a relatively short period of time, they should hopefully cover a large population and let them know about the presence of and the services being offered by Lok Adalats. The MLA effective medium to distribute legal literary literature printed as well as through audio-visual media-amongst the messes. DLSAs can publish the schedules of MLA vans in the newspapers as well as radio in advance to increase awareness and generate interest in these masses about these MLA vans. Mobile Legal Aid has made a mark in making the people legacy literate.

**Legal Literacy**

To provide legal literacy to the masses is the main objective of HALSA. National legal literacy mission was launched on 6.3.2005. With a view to educate the masses about legal literacy, The HALSA got prepared one documentary film Savera which has been telecasted by Doordarshan Kendras of Chandigarh and Hissar. The plan and programme of this mission is to visit all the remote areas in all the villages to educate the people about their rights and duties. During the year 2006-07, 6700 villages were covered by the
mobile vans of public relations department, Haryana showed the documentary film in all the 6700 villages of Haryana. The HALSA is also organizing legal literacy campus in the remote rural areas and urban sums with the help of retired judicial, executive officers, social workers advocates, law teachers, law student or regular basis on Sundays and holidays. To provide printed material for legal literacy programme, The HALSA got published 12,000 books titled "Aap Aur Apka Kanoon" and sent to Sarpanches of all the Gram Panchayats, Chairman of Municipal Council of Haryana State. Another 3,000 books titled "Kahani Ki Kahani Kanoon Ki Jubani" were also published. Every effort is being made to provide legal literacy.

**Publicity through Print and Electronic Media**

Haryana State Legal Services Authority through District Legal Services Authority and Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committees distributed books, pamphlets, folders amongst the masse, displayed flex banner and calendars on the different occasions so that they may be made aware about their legal rights and availability of free legal services under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. Wide publicity was also given in the leading newspapers in the State of Haryana and on cable TV and Doordarshan. Publicity regarding Lok Adalats, legal aid and legal literacy programs in the state of Haryana was also prepared by the Public Relations and Cultural Affairs Department, Haryana through electronic and print media by organizing skits and Nukkar-Nntaka, displaying the documentary films "Savera", "Beti" and "Nasha Khore Se Nasha Mukti Ki Aur" through the local cable network and mobile vans of the department.
Legal Literacy Camps

District Legal Services Authority/Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committees organised special legal literacy campus for revenue large, Bonded Labour Act, 1976 procedure for claiming compensation under Motor Vehicle Act, Workmen Compensation Act and compensation from Railway Accidents Claims Tribunal and also in respect of land acquisition on 24.01.2009. District Legal Services Authorities and Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committee’s organised legal literacy camps for the rights of scheduled casts and backward classes under act such as prevention of atrocity act on 7.2.2009.45

Special Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalats

District Legal Services Authority organised a Special Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalat in the district Panchkula with the help of subordinate authorities on 7.3.2009.

Special Lok Adalats for Labour Cases

District Legal Services Authority organised a Special Lok Adalats for labour cases in all the labour courts 21.03.2009 and settled cases were 182 out of 311 total cases in the Special Lok Adalats.46

Workshops for Training of Empanelled Advocates

Haryana State Legal Services Authority has organized workshop for training of empanelled advocated of Kurukshetra and Pehowa and sensitization of judicial officers, Kurukshetra and Empanelled Advocates of Kurukshetra and Pehowa regarding “Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act", "Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 and NREGA introduced under "The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act,

Public Utility Services Court (PUSC)

The Public Utility Services Court (PUSC) in Karnal and Kurukshetra has started functioning on regular basis on March 12, 2013. PLA court may decide dispute on merits under Section 22C (8) of the National Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. The newly introduced concept of the Permanent Lok Adalat (PLA) for public utility services is touted as an improvement over the Lok Adalats in the State.48

In this chapter, an attempt is made at analyzing organization, functions and working in the State of Haryana. An attempt has also been made to analyze the sorry position of pending cases at the High Court and district level. The present has also highlighted the vacancy position of judges of the High Court and district level. Feasible efforts have been made to improve the working of the Lok Adalats.
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