

## **STUDENTS LEGAL LITERACY MISSION**

### **1. Introduction :-**

To make available the law channels of justice to the poor, free legal services have been incorporated in the legal system. But due to illiteracy, ignorance or unawareness a large section of our society, particularly those who live in rural remote areas, still remain deprived of the fruits of those welfare legislations and schemes.

As students are considered the future leaders so they would be the best medium to communicate between those in need and the Legal Services Authorities. They would be helpful in dissemination of information about legal aid programmes , creating legal awareness among the masses, and to make use of their potential and spirit for the cause of disadvantaged and marginalized sections of the society and empathize and identify the problems of the people and make justice accessible to all. It is extremely important to spread knowledge of the legal rights and duties amongst students to make them responsible citizens of this country.

Hence, Haryana State legal Services Authority has started Students Legal Literacy Mission, in Haryana.

- Under this mission, HALSA with the cooperation of Education Department, Haryana launched **Students Legal Literacy Mission in Haryana in the year, 2009.**

### **2. Constitution:**

The Students Legal Literacy Club run under the guidance of a teacher called "Teacher-in-Charge" to be nominated by the Headmaster/Principal in association with the National Service Scheme (NSS) and under the overall

supervision of the Headmaster / Principal of the respective High School/College.

**Total Legal Literacy Clubs = 3837**

<b>Government Senior Secondary/ Secondary Schools</b>	<b>2600</b>
<b>Government Colleges</b>	<b>192</b>
<b>Private Schools/ Colleges</b>	<b>1045</b>

**3. Functions & Activities of the Clubs:**

The Primary function of the Students Legal Literacy Club is to Spread Legal Literacy and awareness in their neighborhood and act as a bridge between the persons in need of Legal Services and Legal Services Authorities. The functions and activities of the club include the following:- .

a) To observe important Days like World Environment Day, World Day against Child Labour, Women's Day, Disability Day, Mental Health Day, Children's Day, National Legal Services Day, Anti-Tobacco Day etc., and spread message in the public about the aim and object of those Days.

b) To spread legal literacy and awareness by setting up Rallies, making door-to-door visits in the neighboring areas, forming small groups of villagers for inter face, making Road shows, distributing leaflets, pamphlets, study materials etc. containing information regarding modus operandi of Legal Services, Pre-litigation settlement of disputes, Lok Adalat etc., various Government schemes on Poverty Alleviation, Health, Employment, and other social security measures.

c) To distribute Legal Aid application forms free of cost to those who need legal assistance (these forms will be

made available to the clubs at the instance of Legal Services Institutions).

d) To identify persons in their neighborhood who deserve legal aid or assistance and who are in need of protecting their rights conferred by law, and to refer those persons, with recommendation of the Teacher-in-Charge to Legal Services Authorities. for facilitating provision of due and necessary legal assistance to them in accordance with Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 and Rules and Regulations there under.

#### **4. Levels of the competitions.**

1. School/College level competitions up to the month of October.

2. District Level competitions held in the month of November

3. Divisional Level competition held in the month of Decembers

4. State Level competitions held in the January, followed by State Level Function in the month of April or May.

#### **5. Types of Competitions organized under the Students Legal Literacy mission.**

- Declamation contest
- Poetry recitation
- Debate
- Essay writing
- Spot painting
- Slogan writing etc.
- Power Point Presentation
- Preparation of Documentary Films on socio-legal issues.

#### **6. Topics covered under these competitions**

Previously competitions were organized on 10 topics, but during the year 2013-14, competitions were organized on following 17 topics in the Colleges and Schools:-

1. Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005
2. Dowry prohibition

3. Human Rights
4. Fundamental Duties
5. Rights of disabled persons
6. Right of Destitute of Women and Children
7. Drug De-addiction
8. Female Foeticide
9. Hygiene and general awareness
10. Environment.
11. On Sexual Harassment
12. Child Marriage,
13. Right to Education,
14. Right to Information,
15. Constitution Values
16. Ragging
17. Rights of Senior Citizens

## **7. Prizes given to the students**

### ➤ **Divisional Level**

1. First position Rs 5,000/-
2. Second position Rs. 4,000/-
3. Third position Rs. 3,000/-

### ➤ **State Level**

1. First position Rs. 11,000/-
2. Second position Rs. 8,000/-
3. Third position Rs. 5,000/-
4. Besides this, Gold, Silver and Bronze medals are also given to the winner students.

## **8. Funding and Management:**

- Expenditure for the various functions organized at different levels is borne by the Education Department, Government of Haryana.
- At the various levels of competitions, guidance and assistance is provided by the concerned District Legal Services Authority. On legal topics also guidance is provided by the concerned District Legal Services Authority.
- Annual function is organized by the Haryana State Legal Services Authority. In the said function, students from different schools and colleges with the help of department of Public Relation, Haryana

present various cultural programmes by performing Nritya Natika, skits, folk dances, group songs on various legal and social legal issues like female foeticide, women empowerment, education to girl child, women rights, protection of children, Constitutional values, child labour, transgender, drugs de-addiction, inter-caste marriages etc. They also show case various activities performed by them.

- On the annual functions, documentaries on legal awareness are also shown to the students.
- All the participants are given certificates. Prize money is also distributed by the Education Department, Government of Haryana. Books are also distributed by the Haryana State Legal Services Authority amongst the participants.

**9. Total No. of students participated in the competitions till May, 2014**

**1,40,900/-**

**10. Total No. of Annual functions held till May, 2014= 5**

- For the **first time**, such competitions were held **in the year 2009** followed by the **annual function at Kurukshetra on 6.2.2010**. About 12000 students participated in the competitions.
- **In the second year**, about 17000 school students participated in the competitions followed by the **Second Annual Function at Kurukshetra University Auditorium on 19.2.2011**.
- **In the third year**, approximately 26,500 students participated in the competitions at various levels, and state function of “Student Literacy Mission- Annual

Competition” was **organized at Rohtak on 20.5.2012.**

- **In the fourth year,** approximately 45400 students participated in the competitions at the various levels and the State level function of “Student Literacy Mission-Annual Completion” **was held on 19.05.2013** at Brahmakumari’s Om Shanti Retreat Centre, Village Bhora Kalan, **District Gurgaon.** Approximately 3500 students attended the State Level Function.
- **In the fifth Annual function** held on 24.05.2014 **at Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra,** more than 40,000 students participated in these competitions at the various levels. Approximately 2500 students attended the said State Level Function.