

UTTARAKHAND STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY



REPORT OF "15 DAYS LEGAL AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON CHILD'S RIGHTS AND THEIR PROTECTION"

ORGANIZED IN THE STATE OF UTTARAKHAND

FROM 05th OCTOBER, 2023 TO 19TH OCTOBER, 2023

It is humbly submitted that Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the case of ***Salil Bali Vs. Union of India and Anr., 2013*** made the following observation:--"***It cannot be questioned that Children are amongst the most vulnerable sections in any society. They represent almost one-third of the world's population, and unless they are provided with proper opportunities, the opportunity of making them grow into responsible citizens of tomorrow will slip out of the hands of the present generation.....***".

Further, it is kindly submitted that India has the highest number of children in the world and children are particularly more vulnerable to exploitation and abuse than adults. Hence, they are more affected than any other age group by the actions and inactions. Moreover, it must be made sure not only by the government but by the people to try to do their part by trying to protect these fragile minds.

As we know that although in India, a child is referred to as a human being below the age of 14 years and from the age of 14 to 18, they are considered as an adolescent. All people under the age of 18 are entitled to the standards and rights guaranteed by the various laws established as per the mandate of the Constitution of India and accordingly, there is a constant need to bandwagon on Child rights, as the child rights are the subset of human rights.

Apart from this, National Legal Services Authority has also formulated a scheme namely; **NALSA (Child Friendly Legal Services to Children and their Protection) Scheme, 2015.**

Therefore, it is kindly submitted that having considered this issue, Hon'ble the Executive Chairman, Uttarakhand State Legal Services Authority was of the view that there is a need to conduct awareness programmes, camps and other similar activities for the Children in the State of Uttarakhand.

In this context, it is kindly submitted that in order to ensure the effective implementation of the aforesaid campaign at grass-root level, Hon'ble the Executive Chairman, Uttarakhand State Legal Services Authority was pleased to approve to organize a **"15 Days Legal Awareness Campaign on Child's Rights and their Protection"** in the State of Uttarakhand from 05th October, 2023 to 19th October, 2023.

In addition to the above and to make this drive a success, various legal aid and awareness activities were to be carried out by the District Legal Services Authorities during the aforesaid period of 15 days in their respective Districts. A look of such activities is hereunder:-

- (i) To organize Awareness Programmes and Camps in Schools and Colleges, wherein children shall be sensitized about the NALSA (Child Friendly Legal Services to Children and their Protection) Scheme, 2015 and shall also be made aware about the various laws and rights relating to children.
- (ii) To organize Awareness Programmes and Camps in Panchayat Levels, Village Levels and Far-flung Rural Areas, wherein gathering shall be made aware about the NALSA (Child Friendly Legal Services to Children and their Protection) Scheme, 2015 and shall also be made aware about the various laws and rights relating to children.
- (iii) To organize Awareness Programmes and Camps in Observation Home/Children Home/Shelter Home/Special Home and in the Homes where such children reside, wherein gathering shall be made aware about the NALSA (Child Friendly Legal Services to Children and their Protection) Scheme, 2015 and shall also be made aware about the various laws and rights relating to children.
- (iv) In addition to the other laws, to give special focus to the following topics during the said Campaign:-
 - (a) **NALSA (Child Friendly Legal Services to Children and their Protection) Scheme, 2015;**
 - (b) **Prohibition of Child Labour;**
 - (c) **Prohibition of Child Marriage;**

- (d) Prohibition of Child Trafficking.**
- (e) Juvenile Justice Act;**
- (f) Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education;**
- (g) Protection of Children from Sexual Offences;**
- (v) To organize Awareness Rally of School's Children based on the theme of the Campaign.**
- (vi) To organize Radio Talk Show or Nukkad Natak on this campaign.**
- (vii) To make two visits/inspections in the Observation Home/Children Home/Shelter Home/Special Home and in the Homes where such children reside. One visit/inspection shall be made on surprise basis and one shall be made on non-surprise basis.**
- (viii) To conduct Debate/Drawing/Poster/Slogan/Essay/Poetry Competition in Schools and also in the Observation Home/Children Home/Shelter Homes/Special Homes and in the Homes where such children reside, and top three winners of each category shall be felicitated by the DLSA.**
- (ix) To organize Medical Health Check-up Camp in the Observation Home/Children Home/Shelter Homes/Special Homes and in the Homes where such children reside in collaboration with the Medical Department.**
- (x) To ensure effective and adequate publicity of 'Uttarakhand State Legal Aid Cell on Child Rights'**

established in District Haridwar for Garhwal Division and District Udham Singh Nagar for Kumaon Division.

- (xi) To ensure to appoint special Panel Lawyer to deal with the cases relating to children/juvenile in conflict with law.**
- (xii) To ensure wider and adequate publicity of this Campaign through Local T.V. Channel, Print & Electronic Media and Digital Platform.**
- (xiii) To depict the news, information and photographs of the activities on the Facebook Page of the DLSA on regular basis by tagging all the DLSAs and Uttarakhand SLSA.**

It is humbly submitted that for ensuring the necessary compliance of the aforementioned directions issued by the Hon'ble Executive Chairman, Uttarakhand State Legal Services Authority, awareness programmes and camps were organized in Schools, Colleges, Panchayat Level, Village Level, Far-Flung Rural Areas, Observation Home/Children Home/Shelter Home/Special Home and in the Homes where such children reside on the theme of this Campaign i.e. **"15 Days Legal Awareness Campaign on Child's Rights and their Protection"** by the District Legal Services Authorities in association with the Para Legal Volunteers and all other concerning stakeholders.

On the basis of the statistical information furnished by the District Legal Services Authorities relating to the said Campaign, a consolidated report has been prepared and the same is hereunder:-

Name of the District	No. of awareness programmes /camps organized in Schools and Colleges.	No. of Students attended these programmes /camps	No. of awareness programmes/camps organized in Panchayat Level/ Village Level and Far-Flung Rural Areas.	No. of persons attended these programmes/camps	No. of awareness programmes/camps organized in Observation Home/Children Home/ Shelter Home/ Special Home and in the Homes where such children reside.	No. of persons attended these programmes/camps
Almora	82	8168	11	850	08	268
Bageshwar	53	4302	35	826	01	55
Chamoli	96	6836	32	365	-	-
Champawat	11	1507	50	1101	-	-
Dehradun	94	14894	14	1117	11	975
Haridwar	08	300	11	400	03	80
Nainital	66	15860	20	1541	09	246
Pauri Garhwal	19	1419	08	601	02	15
Pithoragarh	13	1500 (Approx.)	05	1000 (Approx.)	-	-
Rudraprayag	20	1985	35	2545	-	-
Tehri Garhwal	21	2399	11	286	01	55
U.S. Nagar	121	13782	32	1644	03	300
Uttarkashi	09	768	09	179	04	37
TOTAL	613	73720	273	12455	42	2031

It is kindly submitted that as per the District-wise reports mentioned in the above table, it is found that during the aforesaid intensive 15 days drive, **total 928 awareness programmes/camps organized** (613 schools/colleges, 273 Panchayat/Village Level/Far-Flung Rural areas and 42 in Observation Home/Children Home/Shelter Home/Special Home and in the Homes where such children reside) wherein **around 88206 persons attended these awareness programmes/camps** (73720 schools/colleges, 12455 Panchayat/Village Level/Far-Flung Rural areas and 2031 in Observation Home/Children Home/Shelter Home/Special Home and in the Homes where such children reside).

Moreover, during the aforesaid 15 days of campaign, various other activities e.g. Awareness Rallies, Radio Show, Nukkad Natak, Debate/Drawing/Poster/Slogan/Essay/Poetry Competition were also conducted by the District Legal Services Authorities in Schools and in Observation Home/Children Home/Shelter Home/Special Home and in the Homes where such children reside.

In this regard, a consolidated report has been prepared, which is hereunder:-

Name of the District	No. of Awareness Rallies organized	No. of Radio Show organized	No. of Nukkad Natak organized.	No. of Debate/ Drawing/ Poster/Slogan /Essay/Poetry Competition conducted in Schools	No. of Debate/Drawing/ Poster/Slogan/Essay /Poetry Competition conducted in Observation Home/Children Home/ Shelter Home/ Special Home and in the Homes where such children reside.
Almora	07	01	03	16	20
Bageshwar	04	-	-	07	01
Chamoli	01	-	-	04	-
Champawat	-	-	02	-	-
Dehradun	06	01	31	126	17
Haridwar	01	-	01	-	10
Nainital	06	04	02	-	02
Pauri Garhwal	12	01	02	14	01
Pithoragarh	10	-	05	03	-
Rudraprayag	15	-	25	19	-
Tehri Garhwal	-	-	-	02	-
U.S. Nagar	05	01	01	16	01
Uttarkashi	-	-	-	01	01
TOTAL	67	08	72	208	53

As per the above District-wise reports, it is found that **total 67 Awareness Rallies, 08 Radio Show and 72 Nukkad Natak were organized.** Apart from this, **208 Debate/Drawing/Essay/Slogan/Poster/Poetry Competition were conducted in schools and 53 such competitions were also conducted in Observation Home/Children Home/Shelter Home/Special Home and in the Homes where such children reside** by the District Legal Services Authorities during the aforesaid period in the State of Uttarakhand.

Further, in compliance of the above directions, all the District Legal Services Authority made surprise and non-surprise visit/inspections in the Observation Home/Children Home/Shelter Home/Special Home and in the Homes where such children reside. A consolidated report is hereunder:-

Name of the District	No. of Surprise Visit/ Inspection made in Observation Home/ Children Home/Shelter Home/Special Home and in the Homes where such children reside.	No. of Non-Surprise Visit/ Inspection made in Observation Home/Children Home/ Shelter Home/ Special Home and in the Homes where such children reside.	Total No. of persons benefitted by this 15 days of Campaign	Other relevant points
Almora	04	04	12817	03 days awareness drive through Mobile Van of the Uttarakhand SLSA was conducted for children and other persons and around 2531 people were benefitted. Around 1500 Saral Kannuni Gyan Mala Books distributed. Apart from this, 02 Medical Health Check-up Camps were organized for the Children in Rajkiya Bal Grah (Kishori) and Shishu Sadan, Bakh.
Bageshwar	02	01	5397	-
Chamoli	-	-	7201	DLSA helped in making 82 Disability certificates and UDID Card. Moreover, it is highlighted that youngest Disabled Child of 03 years age got benefit of UDID.

Champawat	-	-	2608	On 08.10.2023, a Mega Multipurpose camp was organized, which was graced by the benign presence of Hon'ble Executive Chairman, Uttarakhand SLSA, wherein about 500-600 children were present who were made aware about the free legal services and other welfare schemes. Apart from this, with the efforts of DLSA, One 10 years old visually impaired child was also provided a walking stick for blind.
Dehradun	02	05	17286	-
Haridwar	02	-	700	-
Nainital	01	01	17401	Medical health check-up of 10898 students of government schools were made during the said campaign. Apart from this, medical health check-up of 212 children of Govt. Observation Home, Haldwani, Ramnagar and also in schools were made by the Medical Health Department.
Pauri Garhwal	01	01	2035	05 meetings were held with different stakeholders.
Pithoragarh	-	-	1500 Approx.	Mass campaign was done using print & electronic media. Most of the schools of District covered. Creating insights of children exhibited in reels, shorts, videos and Nukkad Natak.
Rudraprayag	-	-	4530	-
Tehri Garhwal	-	-	2740	-
U.S. Nagar	02	01	15426	-
Uttarkashi	-	01	1000 Approx.	-
TOTAL	14	14	90641	-

As per the above District-wise reports, **14 surprise and 14 non-surprise visits/inspections of the Observation Home/Children Home/Shelter Home/Special Home and in the Homes where such children reside** made by the DLSAs. Some of the DLSAs pointed out some issues/findings like; availability of expired food items in such homes, unhygienic toilets and utensils, broken flush tank and mats, non-cleanliness of washrooms, kitchen and buildings, unhygienic cereals, deployment of Nursing Staff, security arrangements, availability the services of free legal advocate, arrangement for skill development of

inmates, etc. For this, necessary directions have been issued to the concerned to resolve the pointed issues/findings, at the earliest.

Further, total 90641 persons benefitted by this 15 days of campaign throughout the State of Uttarakhand.

It is kindly submitted that during the aforesaid 15 days of Campaign, valuable coordination and active participation were provided by the followings:-

- (i) District Administration;
- (ii) Police Administration and Special Juvenile Police Units;
- (iii) Social Welfare Department;
- (iv) Medical and Health Department;
- (v) School and College Administration;
- (vi) Commission for Protection of Child Rights;
- (vii) Juvenile Justice Board and Juvenile Welfare Officers;
- (viii) Child Protection Units and Child Marriage Prohibition Officer;
- (ix) Child Welfare Committees.
- (x) Child Psychologist/Psychiatrists.

During the aforesaid Campaign, the valuable laws like; NALSA (Child Friendly Legal Services to Children and their Protection) Scheme, 2015, Prohibition of Child Labour, Prohibition of Child Marriage, Prohibition of Child Trafficking, Juvenile Justice Act, Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences, NDPS Act, Motor Vehicles Act, etc. were covered and made the general public aware about this.

In order to make this Campaign a grand success, all the District Legal Services Authorities made wider publicity of the aforesaid 15 days of Campaign through Local T.V., Channel, Print & Electronic Media and Digital Platform. Regular information and news were also being uploaded on the Facebook Page of the DLSAs.





