

Programmes organised by Maharashtra State Legal Services Authority
in the year 2008-2009.

Sr. No	Title	Description
1	Conference of Judicial Officers cum Refreshers course organised on 26 th April 2008 in High Court of Bombay.	In order to overcome the huge pendency of cases u/s 138 of N.I. Act, MSLSA has organised a workshop of the Judicial Officers-cum-Refresher Course in the High Court of Bombay. Hon'ble Shri Justice H.S. Bedi, Judge, Supreme Court of India, was kind enough to inaugurate the workshop and enlighten the various provisions for disposal of cases u/s 138 of N.I. Act expeditiously.
2	Conference of Judicial Officers on "Case Management" dated 27 th April, 2008.	The Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India Shri K.G. Balkrishnan, was pleased to inaugurate the inaugural function in the august presence of Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of Bombay High Court and Hon'ble Minister of Law and Judiciary of Maharashtra. All the dignitaries gave valuable guidance on the subject of Case Management for speedy disposal of cases in Trial Court
3	Inauguration of Court Annexed Mediation Centre in the High Court of Bombay on 5 th July, 2008.	The Court Annexed Mediation Centre was an endeavour to promote ADR mechanism for speedy delivery of Justice. Hon'ble Justice Shri S.B. Sinha, Judge, Supreme Court of India, by unveiling the Stone Mark, inaugurated the Mediation Centre. It is fully Air Conditioned and facilitates for creation of completely informal atmosphere away from the Court Room. However giving space to the Mediation Centre in the premises of the Court gives strong message to the Litigants and Lawyers that the Centre is a part of the Court .
4	The Regional Conference of five High Courts on Mediation was organised on 5 th and 6 th July, 2008 in the High Court of Bombay.	The MSLSA has taken initiative to organise Regional Conference of five High Courts on Mediation on 5 th and 6 th July, 2008, Hon'ble Shri Justice S.B. Sinha, Chairperson, Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee, New Delhi (MCPC) in inaugural address gave much more emphasis on the necessity of deliberation upon Mediation and Good Governance . Hon'ble the Chief Justices and Judges of the High Courts of A.P., Karanataka, M.P., Gujrat and Delhi graced the occasion by their active participation in the Conference hosted by MSLSA.
5	a)The Regional Workshop on "Reporting of Court Proceedings by Media and Administration of Justice" for legal correspondent and Journalists held on 19 th October, 2008. b) Release the book of Compilation of speeches delivered in the Workshop by the respected luminaries.	Pursuant to the Directives of the National Legal Services Authority, New Delhi, the Regional Workshop was organised for Media Persons. The Authority invited the luminaries from the legal and Media fraternity to deliver speeches in conference of the participants from Rajasthan, Gujrat, M.P., Chattisgarh and Maharashtra State. Hon'ble Chief Justice of India, Shri Balkrishnan was kind enough to preside over the function. The MSLSA prepared a compilation of views expressed by various speakers in the Regional Workshop on "Reporting of Court Proceedings by Media and Administration of Justice" The compilation book is of great utility for sensitisation of Media so that reporting of Court decision is educative and not misleading and would serve as a primer for Court Reporting.

6	Mega Lok Adalat on Land Acquisition Cases.	Under the aegis of MSLSA District Legal Services Authority, Osmanabad and Aurangabad ventured to organise Mega Lok Adalat for the Land Acquisition References instituted u/s 18 of L.A. Act and the performance was much encouraging. In Osmanabad district, in all 600 cases of Land references were settled in a couple of days whereas in Aurangabad District 99 cases of Land references were settled amicably in a single day. The efforts of the District Legal Services Authority were applauded by the Executive Chairman of the Authority.
7	The Series of Mega Lok Adalat instituted u/s 138 of N.I. Act in various M.M. Court in Mumbai on 26.04.2008 & 22.03.2009	In view of directions from MSLSA, the Mumbai District Legal Services Authority organised the series of Mega Lok Adalat in 12 M.M. Courts in Mumbai and succeeded to achieve its goal. In the Mega Lok Adalat scheduled on 26 th April, 2008, in all 2994 cases of Rs. 30,45,48,272.81/- were settled in a day, whereas in Mega Lok Adalat on 22.03.2009 the DLSA, Mumbai resolved total 7089 cases worth Rs.15,73,75,324.19/- by amicable settlement.
8	The Series of Mega Lok Adalat organised for the matters u/s 138 of N.I. Act in the 16 District headquarter in Maharashtra.	MSLSA requested the 16 District Legal Services Authorities of State to organise the Mega Lok Adalat to reduce the pendency of the cases u/s 138 of N.I. Act. Accordingly the DLSA of Ahmednagar, Akola, Amravati, Aurangabad, Beed, Buldhana, Dhule, Jalgaon, Kolhapur, Nagpur, Nashik, Pune, Sangli, Satara, Solapur, Thane strive hard and succeeded to curtail the pendency of near about, 12047 matters from trial Court in a day.
9	Establishment of Daily Lok Adalat for cases u/s 138 of N.I. Act in M.M. Court, Ballard Pier, Mumbai as Pilot Project.	The MSLSA has set up daily Lok Adalat in M.M. Court, Ballard Pier, Mumbai as Pilot Project since January 2009 for settlement of cases instituted u/s 138 of N.I. Act. The object behind it is to settle the cases instantly and should not be allowed to wait indefinitely for Lok Adalat. The Daily Lok Adalat settled near about 225 cases in last few months.
10	The Legal Literacy Campaign on Plea Bargaining.	In order to give priority to the problems of under trial prisoners, the MSLSA, in its Common Minimum Programme requested all the DLSA's for Legal Literacy Campaign on plea bargaining and to organise Lok Adalat for instant settlement of cases. In response, the Members of the DLSA acted positively for organisation of Legal Literacy Camps in the Jail Premises for awareness of various Legal Provisions related to Plea Bargaining to under trial prisoners. MSLSA also published a Booklet on "Plea Bargaining" to facilitate for invoking the new provisions of Plea Bargaining to reduce the pendency of litigation.
11	Steps for Erecting Informative Hoardings in the Court premises for awareness about legal services.	In order to create awareness of the services rendered on behalf of MSLSA, it was proposed to erect informative hoardings in the premises in all the Courts in Maharashtra. Accordingly, in the first phase the informative hoardings were erected in the premises of Courts of Greater Bombay and Thane Districts. The proposal was referred to the Government of Maharashtra for financial assistance.
12	The Scheme of Mobile Legal Services-cum-Lok Adalat.	The MSLSA proposed to introduce the scheme of Mobile Legal Services-cum-Lok Adalat with trained and experienced Judicial Officer, Social Activists who will visit to every nook and corner of the remote tribal areas, villages, Hamlets, slum areas etc. to impart Legal Awareness amongst

		weaker sections of the society. In view to resolution passed in the National meet of Legal Services Authority at Delhi dated 2009, the MSLSA placed the order to purchase Mobile Van having inbuilt infrastructure for holding Mobile Court, Lok Adalat and Legal Literacy Camp. The MSLSA is going to introduce Mobile Vehicle shortly to facilitate Legal empowerment of illiterate villagers especially poor, women, children, downtrodden section of the society.
13	Micro Legal Literacy Camp & Camps on the subject of NREGS.	Pursuant to directives of NALSA, New Delhi, all DLSA and TLSC in Maharashtra under the aegis of MSLSA took great efforts for organising various kinds of Micro Legal Literacy Camps on various topics all over Maharashtra and scrupulously followed the mandate of NALSA, New Delhi for implementation of Micro Legal Literacy Scheme. The endeavour of the DLSA and Committees proved beneficial for awareness of Legal provisions to the common people of the society. The DLSA also attempted to organise the Lok Adalats on National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme to resolve the difficulties of the poor and labourers..
14	Scheme of Mahatma Gandhi Disputes Free Village campaign.	Mahatma Gandhi Dispute Free Village is being introduced by the Maharashtra Government in coordination with MSLSA. The campaign received tremendous response. The Campaign has introduced people's participation in dispute resolution like "Panch Systems" to give justice at village level. The Maharashtra State Legal Services Authority has made endeavour to fulfil object of the campaign by arranging various kinds of Lok Adalats whenever and wherever required in the State.
15	Inauguration of Maharashtra Judicial Academy & Mediation Centre and Training Institute, Uttan, Bhayander, District -Thane	Hon'ble President of India in the august presence of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India and other dignitaries inaugurated well furnished Maharashtra Judicial Academy and Mediation Centre and Training Institute. The mission of the Institute is to ensure excellence in providing professional training to Judicial & Law Officers through continuous Professional Development Programmes, It is also the object to serve the society by developing, promoting and providing effective mediation services and to be a centre of expertise in alternative approaches to dispute and conflict resolution and related training by providing the amenities at International Level. The Institute proposed to settle international disputes falling in International trade and private international law and to create infrastructure comprising competent faculty for training of Mediators by empanelment of skilled Mediators, holding mediation proceedings. It is also proposed to invite trainers and mediators from well known mediation institutes from around the world to give training.
16	Annual Meet of DLSA's in State of Maharashtra on 5 th and 6 th September 2009 at Nagpur.	Annual Meet of DLSA's in State of Maharashtra was organised on 5 th and 6 th September 2009 at Nagpur. Hon'ble Justice Tarun Chatterjee, Judge, Supreme Court of India was the guest of Honour. Shri Justice V.S. Sirpurkar, Judge, Supreme Court of India also graced the occasion. Hon'ble Judges of the High Court discussed various topics such as Common Minimum Programme, Role of Legal Services Authorities in implementing ADR mechanism and involvement of Law students in Legal Literacy Mission, Expansion of work of Legal Literacy Mission and Lok Adalats to

		develop Para Legal Force to promote Legal Services effectively and efficiently, Legal Aid to Disaster Victims through Legal Services Authorities. Subject such as Probation of Offenders Act, PCPNDT Act, Plea Bargaining, Juvenile Justice Act, Protection of Rights of Women and Children against violence and harassment, National Rural Employment Gurantee Scheme, Mobile Legal Literacy Campaign, etc. were thoroughly discussed.
17	Inauguration of Court annexe mediation centre in District Court, Nashik on 10 th October, 2009	A newly established Mediation Centre in the District Court was inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Justice of Bombay High Court on 10 th October, 2009. Hon'ble Justice Shri A.M. Khanwilkar was the guest of Honour. The efforts and endeavour of the DLSA, Nashik was greatly appreciated by their Lordships. In inaugural address, Hon'ble the Chief Justice, Bombay High Court elucidated the significance of ADR System and Dispute Resolution by amicable settlement. The mediation training programme for Judges, Mediators and Advocates was organised. The said programme was chaired by Hon'ble Shri Justice A.M. Khanwilkar. The participants were apprised on the mediation techniques.
18	Mediation Awareness and referral Judges training Programme	The High Court of Bombay organised Mediation Awareness and Referral Judges Programme on 7 th November, 2009 in the Auditorium of Maharashtra Judicial Academy and Training Institute, Uttan, Bhayendar, District – Thane. Hon'ble Shri Justice R.V. Raveendran, Judge, Supreme Court of India was pleased to grace the inaugural function. Hon'ble Shri Justice Swatentar Kumar, Chief Justice, High Court of Bombay presided over the function. Hon'ble Shri Justice Bilal Nazki and Shri Justice J.N. Patel were also the guest of honour on the occasion. Their Lordships addressed the newly appointed Judicial Officers by their thought provoking speeches so as to facilitate the Judicial Officers of Maharashtra to deal more efficiently with the cases and avail the ADR Mechanism.

