रजिस्ट्रार जनरल महोदय, मध्यप्रदेश उच्च न्यायालय के पत्र दिनांक 14.07.2020 (संलग्न) के संबंध में सूचित किया जाता है कि न्याय एवं विधि मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार द्वारा संचालित न्याय बंधु योजना (प्रो-वोनो लीगल एडवोकेट) के अंतर्गत अपनी सेवा देने हेतु इच्छुक अधिवक्तागण, दिनांक 31.07.2020 तक अनिवार्य रूप से न्याय बंधु एप डाउनलोड कर रजिस्ट्रार करें तथा पूर्णतापूर्वक अपना बायोडाटा रजिस्ट्रार जनरल महोदय, मध्यप्रदेश उच्च न्यायालय के कार्यालय में जमा करें।

आदेशानुसार

(साजीव कपूर)
रजिस्ट्रार /सचिव
उच्च न्यायालय विधिक सेवा समिति
जबलपुर

फोन नं: 0761-2623225
F.No. 24 /Pro Bono/HCLSC /2020
Jabalpur, dated 14.07.2020

To,
1. Secretary,
M.P. High Court Bar Association,
Jabalpur (MP)

2. Secretary,
High Court Senior Advocate Bar Association,
Jabalpur (MP)

Dear Sir,

Kind reference is invited to the letter of Joint Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India, dated 24th June, 2020 (letter is annexed herewith for your kind perusal), “Nyay Bandhu Programme” of department of justice is an attempt to deliver delivery of pro bono legal aid to the marginalized people and poor sections of the society across the country.

Accordingly, in order to strengthen the scheme, it has been proposed to setup pro bono panel of lawyers in the High Court of Madhya Pradesh. High Court may take into consideration pro-bono services of an advocate associated with the Nyay Bandhu Programme, towards designation as a Senior Advocate or elevation to the Bench should the occasion arise.

All learned member of the Bar interested to participate in Nyay Bandhu Programme of department of Justice for pro bono legal services are requested to download the Nyay Bandhu App from Google play store and register themselves for providing probono services and also submit their biodata in the office of undersigned.

(Rajendra Kumar Vani)
Registrar General
Dear Sirs,

Kind reference is invited to the discussion during video conference held on 21.05.2020 which was chaired by Secretary, Department of Justice (DoJ).

2. Nyaya Bandhu programme of Department of Justice is an attempt to deliver delivery of pro bono legal aid to marginalized individuals across the country. In order to strengthen the Nyaya Bandhu network, it is proposed to set up and integrate pro bono panel of lawyers in each High Court (curated and moderated by the respective High Courts) within its Nyaya Bandhu programme. It envisages integrating the Nyaya Bandhu programme within the institutional framework of the justice system in India, so as to ensure its optimum utilization and impact. A brief note on operationalisation of Nyaya Bandhu panels at High Courts is enclosed for your kind reference. We would like to invite your kind inputs and actions regarding the said initiative.

3. I solicit your assistance in creation of Nyaya Bandhu Panels at Madhya Pradesh High Court and publicity of the Nyaya Bandhu programme. This will go a long way bolstering the culture of pro bono legal services in the state of Madhya Pradesh.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Niraj Kumar Gayagi)

Shri R.K. Vani,
The Registrar General,
High Court of Madhya Pradesh,
Jabalpur, India – 482001
Nyaya Bandhu (Pro Bono Legal Services)
Department of Justice
Nyaya Bandhu Panels - Integration with High Courts

• The Nyaya Bandhu (Pro Bono Legal Services) Programme is the Government of India's primary initiative to establish a framework for dispensation of pro bono legal services across the country.

• Under the programme, practicing advocates, interested in undertaking legal pro bono work, are connected, via mobile technology, with eligible marginalised beneficiaries, after due scrutiny for delivery of pro bono (free of charge) legal services.

• The programme fulfils two fold objectives
  a) To institutionalize (through policy frameworks) and encourage (through incentives) pro bono work by advocates; and
  b) To provide quality legal aid (advice, drafting, court representation) to the marginalized beneficiaries.

• As on 31 May 2020, the total number of pro bono advocates registered under the programme is 1678. Out of these, 1534 are male advocates and 144 are female. Majority advocates have identified their expertise in handling both civil and criminal matters. Highest no. of advocate registrations are from Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Punjab & Haryana & Uttar Pradesh.

Nyaya Bandhu Panels at High Courts

• In order to further strengthen the Nyaya Bandhu network, the Department of Justice proposes to set up & integrate pro bono panel of lawyers in each High Court (curated and moderated by the respective High Courts), within its Nyaya Bandhu programme.

• The initiative integrates and embeds the Nyaya Bandhu Programme within the institutional framework of the justice system in India, to ensure its optimum utilization and impact.

• The DOJ’s Nyaya Bandhu portal along with the Nyaya Bandhu Panels, and Pro Bono Club Scheme in law schools are together intended to create a network of pro bono legal services delivery, nationwide, reaching out to the most vulnerable and marginalized communities.
Nyaya Bandhu Panel Framework

- It is proposed that every High Court (through its Registrar General), invite applications from Advocates, practicing before the Hon’ble Court, and who are keen to volunteer pro bono legal services to the marginalized, to become part of the ‘Nyaya Bandhu panel’. As part of this panel, the advocate shall be expected to render timely & quality pro bono advice to marginalized litigants appearing before the respective High Court.

- The implementation and moderation framework for this initiative shall be web based, with each High Court being provided with a unique login to register the names of the Nyaya Bandhu panel members.

- This database will, simultaneously be embedded within the Nyaya Bandhu portal – thereby expanding its reach.

- Once nominated to the panel, the concerned Advocate shall be required to complete his/her registration on the Dept. of Justice’s Nyaya Bandhu mobile application.

Suggested Activities to be undertaken by Nyaya Bandhu Panels

- Rendering of legal advice and aid to the marginalized individuals connected to them via the Nyaya Bandhu portal of DoJ;

- The Nyaya Bandhu advocates may also deliver lectures, participate in seminars organised by State Bar Councils, Law Schools in the state on the subject of pro bono lawyering.

Incentives for Nyaya Bandhu Panels

- Endorsement by DoJ for volunteering under the Nyaya Bandhu programme;

- It is suggested that the respective High Court may take into consideration pro bono services of an Advocate, associated with the Nyaya Bandhu Panel, towards designation as a Senior Advocate or elevation to the Bench, should the occasion arise.

- Recognition and Award for exceptional contribution by the Nyaya Bandhu Panel lawyers.
Nyaya Bandhu
(Pro Bono Legal Services)

Free legal services for marginalised persons from registered Pro Bono Advocates, available on Nyaya Bandhu Mobile App

Nyaya Bandhu Mobile App allows marginalised persons (referred to as 'Applicants'), seeking free legal services, to easily connect with registered Pro Bono Advocates. Nyaya Bandhu Mobile App is available in Hindi and English all over India

Who is an Applicant?
Any person falling under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section 12 Categories</th>
<th>Proof of Eligibility*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member of a Scheduled Caste</td>
<td>Government issued ID identifying category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member of a Scheduled Tribe</td>
<td>Government issued ID identifying category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim of trafficking in human beings or began as referred in Article 23 of the Constitution</td>
<td>Any legal/government document certifying this status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woman or a Child</td>
<td>Government issued ID identifying category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person with disability</td>
<td>Government issued disability certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person in custody</td>
<td>Court order/documents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An industrial workman</td>
<td>Employment ID/certification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim of a mass disaster, ethnic violence, caste atrocity, flood, drought, earthquake or industrial disaster</td>
<td>Any legal/government document certifying this status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person with annual income less than as specified under law</td>
<td>Income certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Any legal/government document certifying this status</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Applicant must submit proof of eligibility at the time of registration on the Nyaya Bandhu Mobile App
Who is an Advocate?
A lawyer with a valid practicing license issued by any State Bar Council.
Advocate must submit enrollment number and certificate at the time of registration on the Nyaya Bandhu Mobile App.

How to use the Nyaya Bandhu Mobile App?
Steps, if you are an Advocate
- Download the Mobile App
- Register Profile
- Authentication by Dept. of Justice
- Accept/ reject (with reason) case of applicant
- Exchange regular updates with applicant
- Mark case as complete

Frequently Asked Questions

**a. Where can I download the Mobile App from?**
The Nyaya Bandhu Mobile App can be downloaded on any Android Phone from Google Play Store or through a link available at www.probono-doj.in (free of cost).

**b. Can the Mobile App be downloaded on iOS?**
It will be launched in iOS compatible mode, shortly.

**c. Is the applicant required to make any payments in cash or kind for availing Pro Bono Legal Services under this scheme?**
Pro Bono Legal Services are free. However, based on mutual understanding between the applicant and the advocate, the applicant may be required to incur incidental expenses like photocopying, posting and typing charges.

**d. Is any certificate or identification card issued to advocates registered under the programme?**
No.

For more information, visit www.probono-doj.in or download Nyaya Bandhu Mobile App.