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CH.PANCHAKSHARI

Member Secretary

(District & Sessions Judge)

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PRESS RELEASE

Campaign “Mediation for the Nation “ and “Eradication of Child Marriage”

In pursuance of the directions issued by the National Legal Services Authority and Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee (MCPC), New Delhi, the Member Secretary, Telangana State Legal Services Authority, Hyderabad, has organized ***Sensitization Campaign on mediation for the nation*** on **02.08.2025** in the premises of District Legal Services Authority, Medchal-Malkajigiri district at Kushaiguda.

Under the able guidance and leadership of **Hon'ble Sri Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh, the Chief Justice**, High Court for the state of Telangana and Patron in Chief of Telangana state Legal Services Authority, Hyderabad **and Hon'ble Sri Justice P.Sam Koshy, Judge**, High Court for the State of Telangana & Executive Chairman, Telangana State Legal Services Authority organized the Awareness Programme on “Mediation for the Nation and also eradication of Child Marriages. Honble Sri Justice P.Sam Koshy, **Judge**, High Court for the State of Telangana & Executive Chairman, Telangana State Legal Services Authority, Hyderabad have graced the said programme as a Chief Guest and addressed the participants on the importance of Mediation and also on ongoing “Mediation for the Nation” Campaign.

The Hon'ble Sri Justice P.Sam Koshy, said that *“It is indeed my privilege to be present over here as a part of the campaign “Mediation For the Nation” . It has been launched by Executive Chairman, National Legal Services Authority, Hon'ble Sri Justice Surya kant recently and we intend to take this to nook and corner in the State of Telangana as a part of it is our mission and as a part of that, It has been brought us here today. The aim and mission behind this is that this message that we want to carry forward by each one of us and every member present here in this hall, each one of us*

have the responsibility of carrying this message into the various dwell into the villages that from where we have come from and where we have access to that.

As this district is part and parcel of city of Hyderabad, number of litigation is increasing day by day and we are cropping the issue as we how we take up the issue. This challenge of taking so much load on the Judges presiding over the benches here. It is in that context and the relevance of the Mediation has recently developed as a potential source of tapping the issues and the litigation.

The word Mediation as such is not a new to the Indian society or the Indian mythological backdrop that we have. The system of settlement of issues by the elders in the family, by village leaders are known to one and all and it is that we have now we brought within the ambit of Alternative Dispute Redressal Forum and among the alternative dispute resolution is Mediation. one of the mechanism . Mediation is not to be considered as just another area of litigation or forum for a litigation deciding a litigation rather it is a mechanism which has to be developed in order to ensure that a dispute does not lead for litigation rather the dispute gets resolved amicably between the parties and that amicable settlement is accepted whole heartedly by the both the parties which gives us a win win situation. Mediation is to be taken not as a adversarial mechanism for settlement rather it has to be treated as a conciliation mode of settlement of dispute resolution. The 30 trained mediators that is we now have has the responsibility on their shoulders. They are recently trained and trained mediators use their training for the betterment of the society and the betterment of the institution and betterment for the legal system as a whole. For us Mediation is something new but if you look into the website, you will find that many of the western countries, mediation is fast growing profession. There are trained mediators negotiate and settle the dispute between Corporate World. Mediation has now become part and parcel of major contracts entered into by Multi National companies, till now it was only arbitration. But now arbitration has also given back seat. Mediation also has become a part of contract by many of major corporate companies. So this tells the importance of

the Mediation is fast growing and it is at that juncture and we need to catch up this field. For more than one reason for ensuring that Mediation is taken across the length and breadth of the district so that every person in the district is aware of such a mechanism available. Before resorting to any judicial mechanism, If things can be resorted before it reaches to the court, there cannot be anything better than that. One should realize the amount of advantages that we have, if you are able to settle a dispute without letting the parties enter into the adversarial litigation. You save the time of the Court, you save the docket inflation of the court, you save the money of the litigants both for the litigation and which is incidental to the litigation.

The father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi extensively used this Mediation when he was practicing as a lawyer not in India way back but it is in South Africa. So it is not a new one. When at that point of time in a country like South Africa, it could be successfully used, executed and implemented, I do not see any good reason why it could not be executed.

We have matters on the family side, we have commercial disputes, civil disputes, petty criminal cases consumer forum disputes and Motor Vehicle Accident issues all these can be amicably settled between the parties. Advocates and all the members present here should make people aware of this mechanism through awareness programmes of Mediation. The Para Legal Volunteers who have placed at different locations make sure that the people gets the message and right knowledge about this Mediation. NALSAR students are regularly participating in Mediation since couple of years and holding this camps regularly and visiting villages and doing camps on mediation. The advantage of successful Mediation between two parties is that they will have no loss of time and money and have more satisfaction and their relationship is maintained cordially than the adjudicated in the court.

Another important aspect for which we are today is Eradication of Child Marriages. Child Marriage infact is a most common in some of the cities in Telangana. Vikarabad is the biggest contributed city which has highest number of cases registered followed by Ranga Reddy and Vikarabad is part of it. Particularly those areas where there is lack of education where there is lack of knowledge. People who are trying to give daughters in marriage for various reasons or various circumstances. And if you look at the news recently, it is noted that we are aware that the marriage has been between 40 yrs old marrying with 8th class girl who is just 13 yrs of age. The girl had cohabitted with the 40 yrs old man for 2 months, thereafter that she took courage of informing the school teacher in respect of the terms she is facing and immediately things were taken into action. We have the ASHA Units. we have got a great responsibility in going into the society as only because of mediation. It is our duty to enlighten the community people on the issue of child marriages by organizing the awareness camps in the nook and corner of the village. We have the Para Legal Volunteers, Panel lawyers and the ASHA Unit constituted in the district are there to educate the people”.

In this 90 days Campaign “Mediation for the Nation”, in Medchal-Malkajigiri District, 108 cases were settled in the mediation campaign and entire state of Telangana, total 179 cases were settled in this 90 days “Mediation for the Nation” Campaign.

In the said programme, Smt.S.N.Sridevi, Principal District and Sessions Judge, Medchal-Malkajigiri District; **Ch.Panchakshari**, Member Secretary, TSLSA., President, Advocate Bar Association, RR District and the judicial Officers have also attended the said programme.

On this occasion, Hon’ble Sri Justice P.Sam Koshy, Judge advised the litigant parties to settle their disputes amicably in a peaceful atmosphere through the process of Mediation and urged the people to utilize the services of the trained mediators of the Medchal-Malkajigiri, Advocates Bar Association. He further said that the settlement of a dispute in the mediation, not only saves the time and money but also preserves the relationship between parties. Finally,persuaded the participants to extend their support and assistance to settle en number of cases

without reaching to the long legal battle work and appealed to utilize the free legal services that are being rendered by the Legal Services Institutions .

Sd/-
Ch.Panchakshari,
MEMBER SECRETARY
Telangana State Legal Services Authority,
Hyderabad.