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PRESS RELEASE

Virtual Inauguration of 73 Taluka Mediation Centres across the State of Gujarat

(Total number of functional Mediation Centres at Taluka places now reaches 123)

Today, on 08.10.2025, the Gujarat State Legal Services Authority has virtually inaugurated Mediation Centers in 73 different Talukas across the State. These Centers have been inaugurated by the esteemed hands of the Chief Guest of the program, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Augustine George Masih, Judge, Supreme Court of India. On this occasion, Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Sunita Agarwal, Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court and Patron-in-Chief, Gujarat State Legal Services Authority; Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alpesh Y. Kogje, Judge, High Court of Gujarat and Executive Chairman, Gujarat State Legal Services Authority; other Hon'ble Judges of Gujarat High Court, Judicial Officers of Registry of the Gujarat High Court and Officers of Gujarat State Legal Services Authority remained present. The Chairpersons and Secretaries of various District Legal Services Authorities across the State, Judicial Officers of the State, Legal Aid Defense Counsels, Panel Lawyers, Para Legal Volunteers and other stakeholders joined virtually.

After today's inauguration, the total number of Mediation Centres at Taluka Places in the State reaches to 123. With this initiative, citizens of rural and semi-urban areas no longer need to go to the District Center. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Augustine George Masih, Judge, Supreme Court of India who was the Chief Guest of the programme, appreciated this visionary step of GSLSA and appealed the young lawyers, para legal volunteers and panel advocates to spread awareness about mediation and join the work. Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Sunita Agarwal, Chief Justice, High Court of Gujarat said that mediation is not just an option, but a value-based justice system based on dialogue, empathy and compromise. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alpesh Y. Kogje, in his introductory welcome address, spoke about the vision and mission of the Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court regarding Mediation and emphasized the need of mediation at taluka level and its necessity. Lastly, Hon'ble Ms. Justice S.V.Pinto, Judge, High Court of Gujarat offered vote of thanks and further appreciated the efforts of Gujarat State Legal Services Authority for establishment of these Centres at remotest Taluka Courts of Gujarat. On this occasion, Member Secretary Gujarat State Legal Services Authority, Ms. Hetal M. Pawar spoke about the various legal service activities of Gujarat State Legal

Services Authority and showed the need and importance of new Taluka Mediation Centers and expressed commitment for the success of these centers.

The core idea of this initiative is “Delivering Justice to the People” at grass root level.

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