

THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA: CUTTACK

N O T I C E

Cuttack, Dated, the 5th March, 2022.

Applications in prescribed format are invited from the retired Judicial Officers of the State for engagement as Nyaya Mitras in the District Courts of Cuttack and Khurda.

1. General terms and conditions

- (a) Maximum age limit is 68 years.
- (b) Preference will be given to candidate who has worked in the same court before retirement.
- (c) Place of posting will be District Court.
- (d) The engagement will be initially for a period of 6 months and thereafter their services will be extended for every 6 months with maximum for 2 years

2. Honorarium and allowances

- (a) Nyaya Mitra will be paid honorarium of Rs. 40,000/- per month.
- (b) One time support of Rs. 8,000/- to Nyaya Mitra for infrastructure i.e. Table/Chair/Stationery and Rs. 7000/- per month for Secretarial staffsupport.

3. The details of engagement, roles and responsibility etc. of Nyaya Mitras are elaborated in the Terms of Reference (ToR) attached to the notice.

4. Eligible candidates are hereby advised to send their application in the prescribed format Annexure-I in a sealed envelope supercribing "**APPLICATION FOR ENGAGEMENT AS NYAYA MITRA**" to the undersigned by speed-post or by e-mail at rg.orihc@indiancourts.nic.in **on or before 14.03.2022.**

By Order of the Hon'ble Chief Justice

Sd/-

**Registrar General
High Court of Orissa, Cuttack**

Memo No. 3759 Dated. 05.03.2022

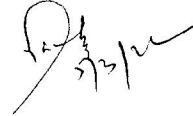
Copy forwarded to All District & Sessions Judges with a request to circulate this notice amongst the retired Judicial Officers.



Special Officer (Admn.)I/C

Memo No. 3760 Dated. 05.03.2022

Copy forwarded to the Director (A2J), Government of India, Ministry of Law and Justice (Department of Justice), Jaisalmer House, 26-ManSingh Road, New Delhi-110011 for information.

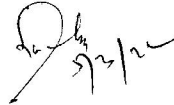


Special Officer (Admn.)I/C

Memo No. 3761 Dated. 05.03.2022

Copy forwarded to the Central Project Co-ordinator of the Court for information and necessary action.

He is requested to kindly upload the notice in the website of the Court.



Special Officer (Admn.)I/C

APPLICATION FOR ENGAGEMENT AS NYAYA MITRA

Date : _____

1. Name of the Applicant :
(In Block Letters)

2. Post held prior to retirement :

3. Place of last posting :

4. Date of retirement :

5. Age as on 14.03.2022 :

6. Permanent Address :

7. Present Address :

8. Mobile Number : (1) _____

: (2) _____

9. Email id :

**Affix recent
Passport size
Photograph**

FULL SIGNATURE OF THE CANDIDATE

Nyaya Mitra

Terms of References (ToR)

1. Introduction

Department of Justice launched three key legal aid and empowerment initiatives – including Nyaya Bandhu (Pro bono legal services), Tele-law and Nyaya Mitra in April 2017 aimed at fulfilling the department's key mandate of enhancing 'Access to Justice' for the poor and vulnerable communities making accessible quality and effective legal aid for them.

Department of Justice, has formulated a scheme namely “Designing Innovative Solutions and Holistic Approaches on Access to Justice (DISHA)” for the period 2021-2026 to enable access to justice and legal aid to common citizens. DISHA amalgamates different Access to Justice components like Nyaya Bandhu, Nyaya Mitra and Tele law being executed by Department of Justice to bridge the gaps in justice delivery besides providing for Legal literacy and Legal awareness programmes at Pan India level.

The issues of delay and pendency have been the bone of contention for the Indian Judiciary for a long time. According to the statistics available on NJDG, as on 1st October 2021, more than 4 crore cases were pending in the District Courts and lower judiciary, of which nearly 4% were more than 15 years old.

Since the last five decades, the Judiciary, the Ministry of Law & Justice, eminent thinkers and jurists have mooted several strategies to tackle the issues of delays and pendency in India. This is just an indication of the immense load that our Hon'ble judges handle and the pressure they experience in order to clear as many cases as possible. It is recognized that India requires proper case management and also court administration systems to achieve the goal. In view this, Nyaya Mitra was launched in April 2017 to facilitate judiciary in reduction of old pending cases.

2. Background

Nyaya Mitra (hereinafter NM) was launched in 227 selected districts of 16 States i.e. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Odisha, eight states of North Eastern Region and Jammu & Kashmir aimed to assist the district judiciary in reduction of ten year old cases. Selection of districts was done based on highest pendency of court cases over 10 years of period sourced from National Judiciary Data Grid (NJDG) database. Retired judicial or executive officer (with legal experience) were designated as the 'Nyaya Mitra' and was initially operated out of District Facilitation Centres, located in Common Services Centres

(CSCs) at the respective district HQ. Post March, 2018, based on the interactions held with Registrar General of different High Courts and Districts Judges of various District Courts, a revised NM Programme was initiated with some alterations in respect of eligibility criteria, experience, sitting arrangements and roles and responsibilities.

3. Locations

- i. **2017-18** : 227 districts of 16 States i.e. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Odisha, eight states of North Eastern Region and Jammu & Kashmir.
- ii. **2018-21** : 200 districts of 7 States i.e. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, West Bengal & Odisha.
- iii. **2021-26** : PAN India implementation under DISHA Scheme on the basis of the pendency of cases for more than 15 years (cases filed before/till 01/08/2006 and still pending at the courts).

4. Previous Engagements

- i. **2017-18**: Advertisement for engagement was published for 227 districts but only 14 Nyaya Mitras were engaged: 237 cases disposed off by them during September 2017 to March 2018
- ii. **2018-19**: Extension given to 14 Nyaya Mitra but accepted offer by 4 NMs: 186 cases disposed off by them during January 2019 to June 2019
- iii. **2019-20** : Published for 93 District Courts and 7 High Courts (total 100) but only 9 Nyaya Mitras were engaged : 1764 cases disposed off by them during January 2020 to March 2020
- iv. **2020-21** : No Nyaya Mitras could be engaged due to closure of courts during Covid lockdown.

5. Roles and responsibilities of Nyaya Mitras

- i. To identify and setting of targets of cases pending over 15 years in respective court.
- ii. To assists in conducting critical analysis of pending cases that may help district judges to understand the issues/bottlenecks and discuss solutions with other government departments and subordinate judiciary for early disposal of old pending cases.
- iii. To coordinate with district authorities for enabling witnesses to come on time or fixed/stipulated time frame for disposal of cases and inform concerned parties.

- iv. To identify the cases in Pre-Lok adalats to be referred to the Lok adalats on priority basis.
- v. To take necessary action pursuant to orders passed by the district court in relation of old pending cases i.e. issue notice/summons, stay/injunction, order copy, inform the arbitrator, local government departments and issue letters to lower courts for summoning the record etc.
- vi. Support in implementation of other A2J Schemes in District Courts and submit best practices / success stories.
- vii. Any other activities related to disposal of old pending cases.

6. Stakeholder Roles

6.1 Registrar General, High Court

- a) Recommendation of NMs for each Districts
- b) Consultation and review
- c) State Nodal Agency.

6.2 District Judges, District Court

- a) Sitting Space & infrastructure facility
- b) Support Staff
- c) Issue Identity Cards
- d) Login credential of CIS
- e) Access of Case records
- f) Assessment of NM Performance
- g) Monthly Reporting.

6.3 Department of Justice, Government of India, New Delhi

- a) Engagement of NMs / issue offer letter
- b) Timely release of payments
- c) Monitoring and Evaluation
- d) Training and Capacity Building
- e) Consultation and review
- f) Performance review & extension of engagement
- g) Documentation/sharing of best practices/experiences.

7. General terms and conditions

- i. He/she shall be Retired Judicial Officer.
- ii. Preference to candidate who has worked in the same court before retirement.
- iii. Nyaya Mitra will be paid honorarium of Rs. 40,000/- per month.

- iv. One time support of Rs. 8,000/- to Nyaya Mitra for infrastructure i.e .Table/Chair/Stationery and Rs. 7000/- per month for Secretarial staff support.
- v. Maximum age limit will be 68 years.
- vi. Place of posting will be District Court.
- vii. The engagement will be initially for a period of 6 months and thereafter their services will be extended for every 6 months with maximum for 2 years
- viii. Extension will be given based on the performance feedback submitted by the respective District Judges.

8. Stages of Selection (2021-2026)

- **FY 2021-22:** 20 NMs will be selected for the 20 districts.
- **FY 2022-23:** 20 NMs will be selected for the 20 districts.
- **FY 2023-24 :** 20 NMs will be selected for the 20 districts.
- **FY 2024-25 :** 20 NMs will be selected for the 20 districts.
- **FY 2025-26 :** No Nyaya Mitras will be selected this year
- **Total 80 Nyaya Mitras will be selected from 2021-2026**

9. Identification of district (From 2021-22)

For the year 2021-22, 20 (twenty) district courts have been identified based on a hybrid model that includes 10 districts with low pendency (<500 pending cases) and 10 districts with higher pendency of cases for more than 15 years (NJDG data as on 01 August 2021). Identified Districts Courts are as follows: -

District Court with Higher Pendency of cases for more than 15 years: -

S.No	Zone	State	District	Pending cases more than 15 years
1	West	Maharashtra	Mumbai CMM Courts	43820
2			Nagpur	24082
3	East	Odisha	Khurda	23928
4			Cuttack	12176
5		West Bengal	South Twenty Four Parganas	44371
6			Calcutta	31624
7	North	Rajasthan	Jaipur Metro I	5097
8			Kota	2053
9		Uttar Pradesh	Agra	9345
10			Allahabad	40695

District Courts with Low Pendency (>500 pending cases) of cases for more than 15 years: -

S.No	Zone	State	District	Pending cases more than 15 years
11	South	Telangana	Hyderabad Central	496
12			Warangal	347
13			Karimnagar	146
14		Karnataka	Mandya	417
15			Belagavi	402
16			Ramanagaram	296
17	North East	Assam	Kamrup Metro	304
18			Cachar	208
19			Karbi Anglong	199
20		Arunachal Pradesh	Papum Pare	300

10. Selection Criteria

- Nyaya Mitras will be nominated by the respective Registrar Generals (RGs) of the High Court for the identified District Court.
- RGs will nominate a panel of 3 NMs for each District Courts.
- If a Nyaya Mitra rejects the offer/engagement or resigns during the period, the new Nyaya Mitra could be immediately placed for providing the services to the respective District Court.
- The offer letter will be issued to the recommended Nyaya Mitras by the Department of Justice with TOR for acceptance.