

[1] One of the activities under the directions of Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai, Judge, High Court of Sikkim and Executive Chairperson, Sikkim SLSA, is generating awareness through lectures about the Fundamental Duties as envisaged in Article 51A and Free Legal Aid as envisaged under Article 39-A of the Constitution of India to the student members of Legal Literacy Clubs of the Schools.

[2] In view of the above, the Sikkim State Legal Services Authority under the directions of her Ladyship organized an *Awareness Lecture* on "***The Importance Of Fundamental Duties As Envisaged In Article 51A And Free Legal Aid As Envisaged Under Article 39A Of The Constitution Of India***" for the *Legal Literacy Clubs of Schools in East District* on **26<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 (Friday)** at the *Sikkim Judicial Academy, Sokeythang*.

[3] The programme commenced with the welcome note from Shri Suraj Chettri, Member Secretary, Sikkim SLSA, who informed the august gathering that Legal Literacy Clubs have been established in Schools for disseminating information about law and to make people aware about their rights and duties through various activities of the Legal Literacy Club so that the students become law abiding citizens and not only boost legal literacy but also help in strengthening the aim of legal services institutions of Access to Justice for the vulnerable and marginalized section of the society.

194 student members of the club along with their teacher-in-charge participated in the awareness lecture.

[4] The Resource Persons for today's programme were Mr. T.R. Barfungpa and Mr. Zangpo Sherpa, Panel Advocates of Sikkim SLSA.

[5] Shri T.R. Barfungpa, Panel Advocate spoke on how to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem, how to cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our National struggle for freedom, how to uphold and protect the Sovereignty, Unity and Integrity of India, how to defend the Country and render National Service when called upon to do so and how to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India.

While Shri Zangpo Sherpa, Panel Advocate spoke on how to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture, how to protect and improve the natural environment including Forests, Lakes, Rivers and Wildlife, how to develop the Scientific Temper, Humanism and the Spirit of Inquiry and Reform, how to safeguard Public Property and to abjure Violence, how to strive towards excellence in all spheres, how to provide opportunities for Education by the Parent or the Guardian, to their child or a ward between the age of 6-14 years as the case may be and with regard to Free Legal Aid as envisaged under **Article 39A** of our Constitution.

[6] The programme ended with fruitful interaction between the student participants and Resource Persons.

The vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Bikash Sharma, Deputy Secretary, Sikkim SLSA.