

DUTIES OF REMAND ADVOCATE

In compliance to the direction of Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai, Judge, High Court of Sikkim & Executive Chairperson, Sikkim SLSA, a training programme on Pre-Arrest/Custody/Remand and the Duties of Remand was conducted by Sikkim State Legal Services Authority on 17th October, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. through webinar. The training programme was attended by the Remand Advocates and Retainer Lawyers.

Shri Sonam Palden Bhutia, Member Secretary, Sikkim SLSA was the Resource Person for the said programme.

The Resource Person emphasized on the fact that right to free legal aid under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 and assistance is an essential ingredient of reasonable, fair and just procedure for a person accused of any offence and is essential that Access to Justice is available at all stages of the criminal process including pre-arrest stage.

The details about the history and importance of all stages of criminal investigation with Case Laws were explained and he also asserted that providing legal aid to the arrested at the pre-arrest stage ensures protection of the rights of people when they are most vulnerable, and also strengthens the criminal justice system.

Further, the participants were also apprised about the NALSA's Scheme of engaging Retainer Lawyers and Remand Advocates and their roles and

responsibilities. A power point presentation to highlight some of the important case laws and legal provisions regarding the topics was also presented during the training programme.