

As per the directions of Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai, Judge, High Court of Sikkim & Executive Chairperson, Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, the Sikkim SLSA working under the aegis of National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), conducted a Legal Awareness and Outreach Programme, for the labourers and public of Kupup and surrounding villages about the NALSA (Legal Services to the Workers in the Unorganized Sector) Scheme, 2015 on 22nd May, 2022 (**Sunday**) in coordination with Labour Department, Government of Sikkim at the Kupup Community Hall, East Sikkim.

Shri Sonam Palden Bhutia, Member Secretary, Sikkim SLSA, sensitized the gathering on the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Unorganized Workers Social Security Act, 2008, the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016, Sikkim Labour Protection Act, 2005, the institution of financial management for the unorganized sector under Pradhan Mantri Bima Suraksha Yojna and Pradhan Mantri Pension Yojna available under various Nationalized Banks, Protection of Children Against Sexual Offences Act, 2012 and free legal aid and services and how it can be availed.

Shri Navin Sharma, Labour Inspector, Labour Department deliberated on various issues with regard to the Sikkim Labour (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 2021, the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, benefits provided under eShram Card, benefit to Labourers such as accidental benefits and maternity benefits and the Central and State Schemes pertaining to Labourers and persons working in unorganized sectors. He also provided information about the digitization of online mode for registration of individual workers/labourers which is available under the website of the Labour Department (<https://labour.sikkim.gov.in>) and also provided the toll free number 18003451474 for any enquiries.

A vibrant interactive session was held between the participants and the Resource Persons followed by free medical check up by a Medical Team from the Health & Family Welfare Department for health check up and distribution of free medicines to those present.

The programme had the participation of Panchayats, Para-Legal Volunteers, various labourers working under organized and un-organized sectors in and Kupup, public of Kupup, Tanzey, Yakla, Gnathang, Tsomgo and Sherathang areas, Consultant, Sikkim SLSA, Press and Media and the staff of Sikkim SLSA.

The welcome address and the vote of thanks was delivered by Shri Praveen Pradhan, Deputy Secretary, Sikkim SLSA who also apprised the gathering with regard to the NALSA Mobile App which facilitated the availability of free legal aid and assistance, legal advice, redressal of other grievances, tracking of their application for the same, availing compensation under the Victim Compensation Scheme and Mediation.