

## REPORT

### Programme for Model Judicial Districts (P-852-P-861)

Mr. K. PATTABHI RAMA RAO

Judges and ministerial staff from ten districts participated in the programme and total number of fifty participants, who include judge and ministerial staff of the courts and the legal services institutions participated in the programme. In this programme officers from the following districts were invited.

1. Hardoi District (under Allahabad High Court)
2. Annapur District (under Andhra Pradesh High Court)
3. Bhandara District (under Bombay High Court)
4. Medinipur District (under Calcutta High Court)
5. Tumkur District (under Karnataka High Court)
6. Todupuzha District (under Kerala High Court)
7. Satna District (under Madhya Pradesh High Court)
8. Tirunelveli District (under Madras High Court)
9. Bolangir District (under Orissa High Court)
10. Katihar District (under Patna High Court)

The programme commenced at 10:00 Am and Dr. Balram K Gupta, Director, NJA offered his introductory remarks. He invited the participants to the conference and said that all the participants are free to express their thoughts and the opinions of every participant would be given due regard and weight. After introduction of the participants, the programme Coordinator Mr. K. Pattabhi Rama Rao set the context of the Programme explaining the objective of the programme. He explained that the following are the objectives of the programme:

The programme is to achieve the following objectives:

1. To develop harmony and better co-ordination amongst the judicial officers and ministerial staff
2. To develop commitment to cause of justice
3. To make the ministerial staff feel that they are also part and parcel of noble cause of administration of justice



4. To prepare a road map for updating the legal knowledge and skills of the judges and staff at the District level
5. To make officers at all levels to interact with each other without inhibitions.
6. To enhance over all development in administration of justice in the District to develop healthy competition in qualitative and quantitative justice delivery.
7. To develop coordination between the courts *inter se* and the courts and legal service institutions.
8. To create a litigant friendly environment in the courts that helps in increasing the public confidence in the judicial institutions.

He advised the participants that essentially the programme is to facilitate the discussions amongst the participants and the discussions shall be in accordance with the above objectives. Later Justice Ravi R Tripathi, Judge High Court of Gujarat, made a presentation on the requisites of Ideal Judicial administration. He highlighted that –

1. The District judges shall act as the leaders of the district judiciary and shall be able to find out the solutions to the problems of all the staff as well as the judicial officers.
2. The district judge will be having too many problems on judicial side and administrative side and he shall be in a position to delegate appropriate work to the competent persons and the works which have to be done by him shall not be delegated.
3. The district judge shall allow the staff to meet him and vent out the grievances and if the grievances can be dealt without causing hardship to others they are to be redressed.
4. The district shall be a role model to the judges in the district by his conduct and he shall facilitate cooperation of the other stake holders in the system with the judicial officers.
5. The district judge shall hold periodical official meetings as well as un official meetings with the judges and the staff working in the district.
6. The district shall take measures for development of the infrastructural issues and he shall speak to the government officers on behalf of the judicial officers.
7. The District judge shall take steps to see that the public trust and confidence in the judiciary is increased.

Some of the District judges participating in the conference also expressed their opinions. Justice Chndresh Bhushan and Justice Ravi Tripathi chaired the sessions. After that necessary



instructions were given by the programme coordinator for discussions. The participants were facilitated to hold discussions with their counter parts from other Districts. During the discussions they are expected to identify the common concerns and challenges and the most appropriate best practices. They are also expected to evolve a group wise paper of common concerns and challenges and the possible remedies. It was also informed to the participants that after discussions, one from each group will be requested to present the views of the members of his group. Thus the persons belonging to each cadre from the districts across the country sat together and they discussed the problems relating to their cadre. Discussions took place till 1:00 P M.

In the afternoon session the representative of the ministerial staff of the court was first invited to make his presentation. The representative came and presented their views. They have mainly requested that adequate infrastructure and training shall be given to the staff and the judicial officers require giving respect to the staff and treating them with dignity. The representative also stated that the judicial officers shall encourage the training of the staff and they shall train them personally. Later the representative of the ministerial staff of the Legal Services was invited to make the presentation. Their representative stated that they shall be considered for giving of the benefits which the staff of the court is getting. It was said that in some of the States there are no regular staff for the legal services Institutions and they staff from the court are being deputed to work. It was also mentioned that there is no training at all to the staff of the Legal Services Institutions and NALSA shall organize training camps for them. The representative also said that there shall be good cooperation between the staff of the court and legal services institutions. Later the representatives of the Junior Civil Judge and the Senior Civil Judges made their presentation and expressed their expectations on the conduct of the principal district judges. At the end the representatives of the Principal District judges spoke on the expectation of the Principal District judge from the staff and the judicial officers and the changes in the behavior they expect from the staff and the judges. After the presentations by the representatives of each duty holder, the participants from each district separately discussed on the preparation of the vision statements for their district and prepared the vision statements., from 4:00 Pm to 5:00 PM.



On the second day of the programme Justice Ravi R Tripathi presented his views analyzing the presentation made by the representatives of each group of officers. He advised that more positive attitude is needed for developing model judicial district and only with the cooperation and help of all the officers and the staff judicial excellence in the district can be achieved. Justice R Y Ganoo and Justice Chandresh Bhushan also shared their views and experiences on administration of the district judiciary. There after time was given for a brief revision of the Vision Statements prepared by the group from each district. All the Principal District Judges have taken the steps to prepare the vision Statement for their respective district. The Vision Statements of Model Judicial Districts 61 to 70 were presented by the respective Principal District judges from 10: 45 AM to 3:30 PM as per the schedule and later Justice R Y ganoo ,Justice Chandresh Bhushan and Justice Ravi R Tripathi advised the judges in various issues. The copies of the vision statements and Revision Statements were properly documented and each district judge was furnished with the set of the vision statements of the Model Judicial Districts 61- 70 and the CDs of the documentaries which are being used in the National Judicial Academy for sensitizing the judges. The Programme closed at 5:30 PM. All the Vision Statements and revision Statements are enclosed with the report which themselves speak of the proceeding of the conference.

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