REFRESHER COURSE FOR NDPS COURT JUDGES [P-1514]

Venue: National Judicial Academy, Bhopal

10th & 11th October 2026

Academic Coordinator: Ms. Nitika Jain, Faculty, NJA

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

DAY 1 **10th October 2026 (Saturday)**		
SESSION & TIMING	**THEMES**	**RESOURCE PERSONS**
SESSION 1 10:00am – 11:30am	**Scheme of NDPS Act: Constitutional Foundations, Search & Seizure Safeguards** ***Proposed Scope of Discussion*** • Sections 41, 42, 43, 50 compliance: mandatory vs. directory safeguards • Conscious possession & statutory presumptions – Sections 35 and 54 reverse-burden presumptions • Sampling under Section 52A vis-à-vis *Bharat Aambale v. State of Chhattisgarh*, 2025 INSC 78	**Justice CV Karthikeyan** **Mr R Sudhakar**
11:30am – 12:00noon	**Tea/ Coffee Break**	
SESSION 2 12:00noon – 01:30pm	**Appreciation of Evidence in NDPS Cases: Forensic, Digital and Circumstantial Evidence** ***Proposed Scope of Discussion:*** • Appreciation of Evidence Relating to Search, Seizure and Recovery: Independent witnesses, panchnama integrity & body-worn/CCTV evidence • Sampling, Sealing and Chain of Custody • Forensic Evidence and FSL Reports • Presumptions and Burden of Proof under the Act • Appreciation of Contradictions, Deficiencies and Electronic Evidence	**Justice Sonia Gokani** **Justice Anoop Chitkara** **Mr R Sudhakar**
01:30pm – 02:30pm	**Lunch Break**	
SESSION 3 02:30pm – 04:00pm	**Bail Jurisprudence under Section 37 of NDPS Act** ***Proposed Scope of Discussion:*** • Mandatory twin-conditions bar • Balancing Personal Liberty with Societal Interest • Small, intermediate and commercial quantity distinctions in bail applications • Default, conditional & statutory bail interface • *Union of India v. Chidiebere Kingsley Nawchara and Others*, 2026 SCC OnLine SC 1585	**Justice CV Karthikeyan** **Justice Anoop Chitkara**
04:00pm	**Tea/ Coffee at the Cafeteria**	

DAY 2 11th October 2026 (Sunday)		
SESSION 4 10:00am – 11:15am	**Disposal of Contraband and Forfeited Property: Procedure and Judicial Oversight** ***Proposed Scope of Discussion:*** • Statutory Framework and Procedure for Disposal of Contraband • Malkhana management, seal integrity & FSL protocols • Confiscation, forfeiture of property (Chapter VA) • Disposal under Section 52A after taking samples • Disposal of Vehicles and Other Property • Practical Challenges and Best Practices in Disposal of Seized Property	**Justice Anoop Chitkara** **Justice Vinod Diwakar**
11:15am – 11:40am	**Tea/ Coffee Break**	
SESSION 5 11:40am – 01:40pm	**Sentencing in NDPS cases and Emerging Challenges** ***Proposed Scope of Discussion*** • Proportionality in sentencing • Approach of sentencing in NDPS Cases • Section 64A immunity, treatment-oriented disposal & & compounding limits • Scheduling gaps and New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) • Cross-border and foreign-national cases	**Justice Anoop Chitkara** **Justice Vinod Diwakar** **Dr Humayun Rasheed Khan**
1:40pm	**Feedback and Audit of the Course by Participants**	
LUNCH & DEPARTURE		

Faculty Coordinator & Academic Assistance, NJA		
Ms. Nitika Jain, Research Fellow	9425601225	nitikajain.nja@gmail.com

Protocol & Liaison Assistance, NJA		
Mr. Chetan Nehete (Event manager)	9425601233	nchetan@nja.gov.in
Mr. Vivek Jain (Asst. Protocol Officer)	9425601220	liaisonoffice@nja.gov.in