

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**KARNATAKA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY,**  
**BENGALURU**

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**PRESS NOTE**

**“Access to justice for all”** is the vision of Legal Services in India. The Karnataka State Legal Services Authority was established with the noble object of providing free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society and to ensure that justice is not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities and to organise Lok Adalats and to ensure that the operations of the legal system promotes justice on the basis of equal opportunity. Equal opportunity irrespective of caste, creed or religion.

Lok Adalats have become an important instrument for deciding the disputes / cases with a sense of finality and to the satisfaction of the disputing parties. In the recent past, the Lok Adalat movement has gained momentum and become popular and this is reflected by a quantum jump in the number of cases being settled in Lok Adalats, impacting the pendency of cases in the different Courts. Lok Adalats have acted as a potent weapon with the judiciary to remove from the system all such matters that do not really call for the attention and time of the Court.

In the wake of Covid-19 pandemic, courts were unable to take up the cases for hearing. Three National Lok-Adalats scheduled in the year 2020 were cancelled. There was request from the litigant public and some of the advocates for early disposal of their cases through alternative dispute resolution mechanism. Under the able guidance of Hon'ble Chief Justice, High Court of Karnataka and Patron-in-Chief, KSLSA and Hon'ble Executive Chairman, KSLSA, Karnataka State Legal Services Authority took a bold step to organise E-Mega Lok-Adalat on 19-09-2020 and it was a huge success. As many as **1,15,938** cases were settled in the E-Mega Lok-Adalat. Thereafter on 19-12-2020, Second Mega Lok-Adalat both virtually & physically was conducted. That was also a big success and we could settle **2,63,215** cases.

In the year 2021 NALSA has scheduled 4 Mega Lok-Adalats. As per the directions of Hon'ble Sri Justice Aravind Kumar, Executive Chairman, KSLSA a direction was issued to all the Chairpersons and Member Secretaries of District Legal Services Authorities to organise **MEGA Lok Adalat** on all subjects such as **MACT cases, matters related to financial institutions, criminal compoundable cases including NI Act cases, civil suits, family court matters (except divorce) etc., physically** or through Video Conference on **27.03.2021**.

On 27-03-2021, Mega Lok-Adalat was inaugurated by Hon'ble Sri Justice N. Santosh Hegde, Former Judge, Supreme

Court of India at 10.30 p.m. and following that Lok-Adalat was conducted throughout the State till 5.30 p.m.

On **27.03.2021** in the Mega Lok Adalat **19,113** pre-litigation cases, **313,823** pending cases, total **3,32,936** cases were settled in the Lok Adalat. So, it was a record breaking/grand settlement, giving huge relief to litigant public.

Sl. No.	Date of Lok Adalat	No. of Benches	Total No. of cases settled	Total compensation paid	Total Fine and Penalty recovered
1	19-09-2020	875	1,15,938	330,38,56,175	27,33,38,583
2	19-12-2020	958	2,63,215	660,56,81,739	41,59,43,188
3	27-03-2021	963	3,32,936	1033,53,65,965	18,19,89,648

Hon'ble Sri Justice Abhay Sreeniwas Oka, Chief Justice, High Court of Karnataka & Patron-in-Chief, KSLSA, Hon'ble Sri Justice Aravind Kumar, Judge, High Court of Karnataka & Executive Chairman, KSLSA and Hon'ble Sri Justice Alok Aradhe, Judge, High Court of Karnataka & Chairman, HCLSC, KSLSA have appreciated the efforts put in by the stakeholders for the success of the Lok Adalat. They have expressed their gratitude for the cooperation extended by the Judicial Officers, Advocates, litigant public, insurance company officials, bank officials, Government Officials and also press and media.

#### **Highlights of Mega Lok-Adalat**

- **Mysuru district:**

- 29 couples who had filed divorce petition, restitution of conjugal rights got compromised their cases before

Lok-Adalat and all of them have re-united. Amongst 29 couples, there was one aged couple where the husband was aged 67 years and wife was aged 55 years. They too got settled their cases in the Mega Lok-Adalat and reunited.

- 24 years old execution case bearing number 473/97 was compromised for Rs. 5,00,000/-.

- **Gadag District:**

- One MVC death case (MVC No. 20/19) got ended in compromise and Bajaj Insurance Company, Hubli paid compensation of Rs. 58,00,000/-.

- **Bangalore Urban District:**

- In Small Causes Court, Bengaluru a case filed by M/s Kirloskar System Pvt. Ltd. Vs. Embassy Property Developers Ltd., for the offence under Sec 138 NI Act in PCR No. 1904/21 was pre-conciliated and compromised at the stage of PCR for Rs. 21,10,05,035/-.

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