



Activities/Duties,
Relevant Statistics
and
Achievements
of the
Delhi Judicial
Academy

(01.04.2024 – 31.03.2025)

Introduction

The Delhi Judicial Academy is engaged in imparting judicial education to the in-service as well as newly inducted/promoted judicial officers. It also imparts training to the other stakeholders of the justice delivery system in order to enhance the responsiveness and efficiency of the administration of justice.



Premises of the Delhi Judicial Academy for holding Continuous Judicial Education and Training Programmes

The programmes though mostly held physically in the Delhi Judicial Academy Complex, also had a mix of hybrid sessions where felt essential.

A) Statistics

The Delhi Judicial Academy conducted 132 training programmes from 01st April, 2024 to 31st March, 2025, including the entry level programmes, core competence enhancement programmes and the training programmes for the other stakeholders.

The Academy imparted training to stakeholders of the justice delivery system, which included in-service judicial officers, newly inducted/promoted judicial officers, Family Court Counselors, Probation Officers, Public Prosecutors, Lawyers, Legal Aid Counsels, Delhi Police, Doctor, Chairpersons & Members CWC, DCPU, Staff, Support Persons, Principal Magistrates, JJB, SJPU, Member Social Worker, JJB, Special Judicial Magistrates, Nodal officers of Insurance Companies, Secretaries DLSA, Nodal officers of Insurance Companies, Law Students, SEMs, Special Judicial Magistrates, Officers / Official of NCB, Member from Child Protection Unit, Advocate / Advocate

Clerks, LACs, ADCPs / ACPs, Protection Officers attached with MMJs (Mahila Court), Chairperson & Members of Internal Committee in District Courts, OICs (Vigilance) & Members of Vigilance Committee in District Courts, Chief Probation Officer & Probation Officers of Delhi etc.

B) Key Initiatives

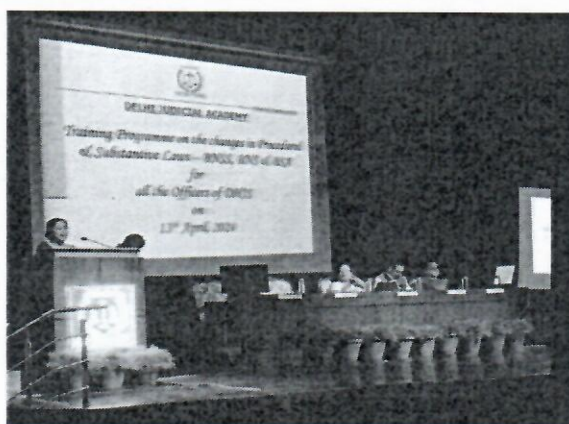
The Delhi Judicial Academy for pursuing excellence in judicial education and in its endeavour to delve in areas which need more attention, organized various training programmes.

Some of the key initiatives worth mentioning are stated below:

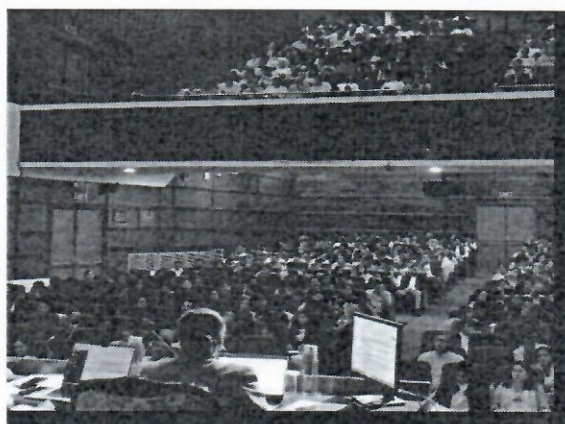
B.1) Orientation Program on New Criminal Laws 2023 for Stakeholders of Criminal Justice System

The Parliament of India has replaced the existing key criminal laws, namely, the Indian Penal Code, 1860, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 with the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 ("BNS"), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 ("BNSS") and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 ("BSA"). As notified, the new criminal laws, which intend to overhaul the Indian criminal justice system, shall take effect from 1st July, 2024.

Accordingly, in order to orient the stakeholders of the criminal justice system about the changes introduced by the new criminal laws, orientation programmes were organized for judicial officers, public prosecutors, lawyers and legal aid counsels by the Academy in April and May 2024.



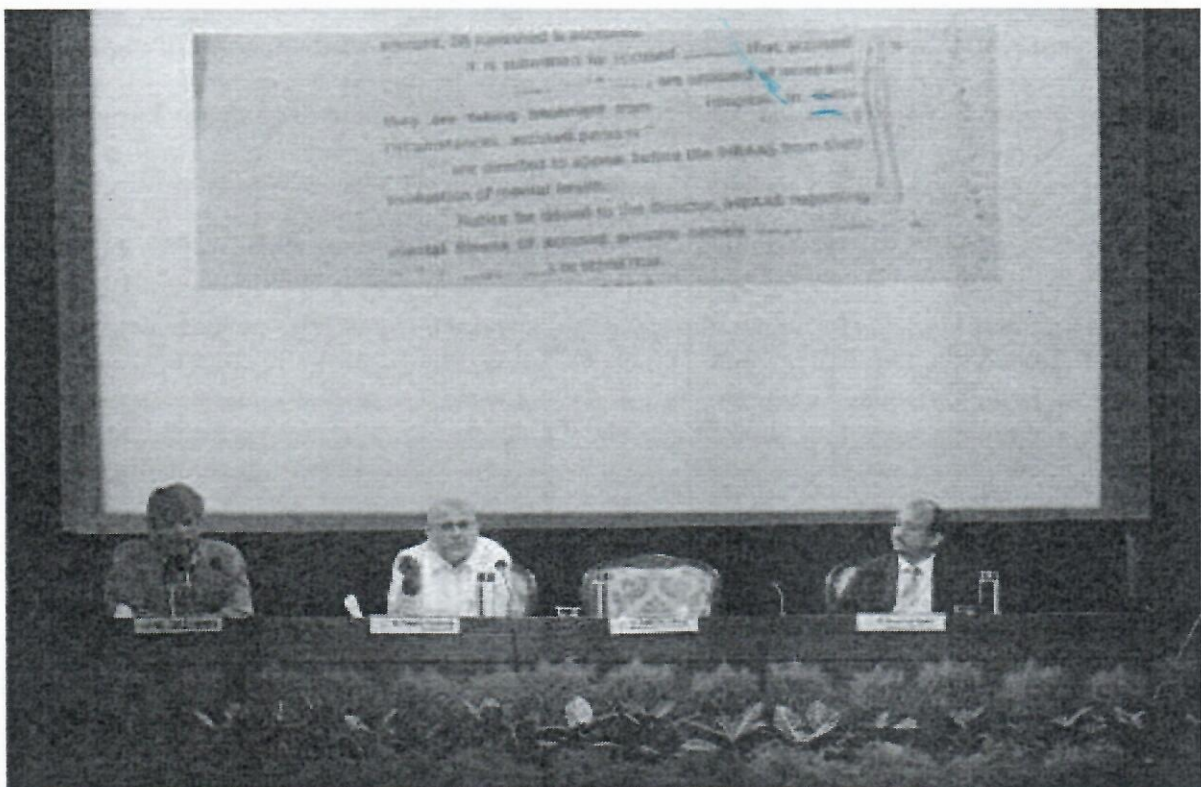
Dr. Aditi Choudhary, Director (Academics) cum Chairperson (Officiating), Delhi Judicial Academy giving introductory remarks on 13th April, 2024.



Orientation Programs on New Criminal Laws for Judicial Officers held in the Auditorium of the Delhi Judicial Academy.

B.2) Orientation Course on the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017

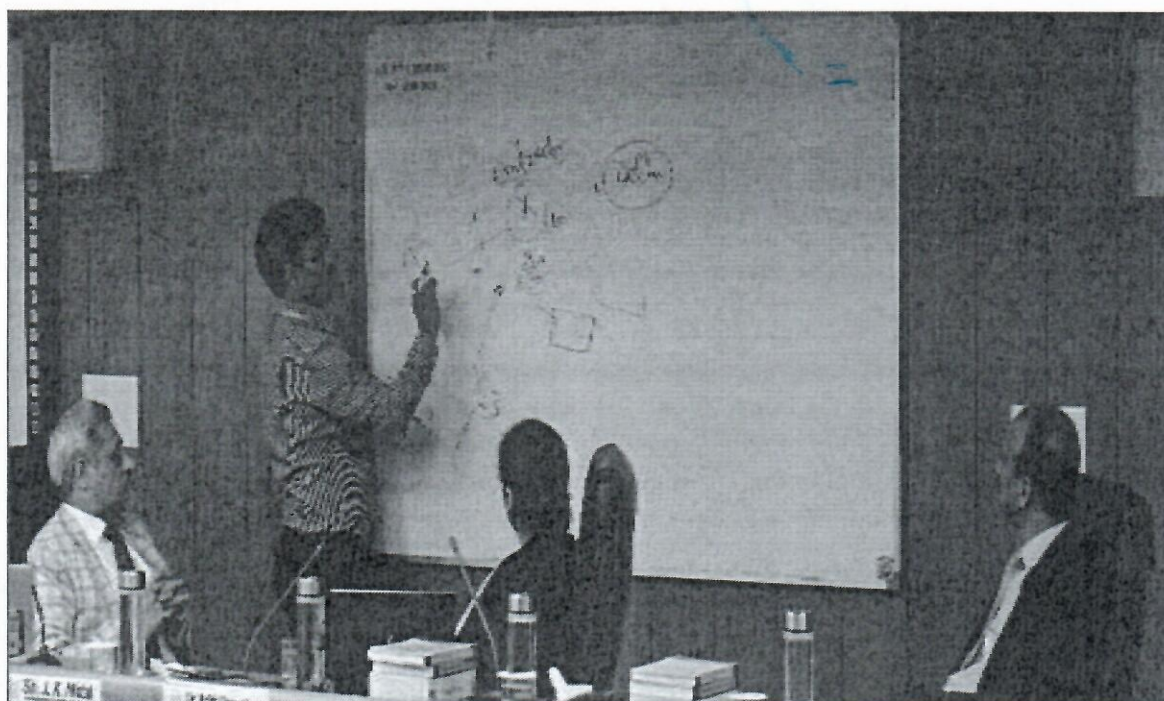
An Orientation Course on Mental Health was held on 17th May, 2024 for judicial officers, police officials, public prosecutors as well as mental health professionals. The training focused on understanding the nuances of mental health and mental illness with an increased focus on shattering the stereotypical understanding of these concepts. Further, the ambit and interplay of mental and legal “capacity”, as envisaged under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was contemplated upon. The finer nuances of Mental Healthcare Act, 2017 including the rights of persons with mental illness as enshrined in the Act along with the responsibilities of the stakeholders and case studies were discussed. Further, the procedure to be followed by the police officials as per SOP dated 15.06.2021 was also discussed. The laws on fitness to stand trial and the defence of Insanity were deliberated upon. The process of making a psychiatric assessment of the accused’s fitness to stand trial was also pondered upon.



Resource persons discussing the provisions of Mental Healthcare Act, 2017 with the participants during the session.

B.3) Judicial Conference on Tax Regime and Criminal Prosecution

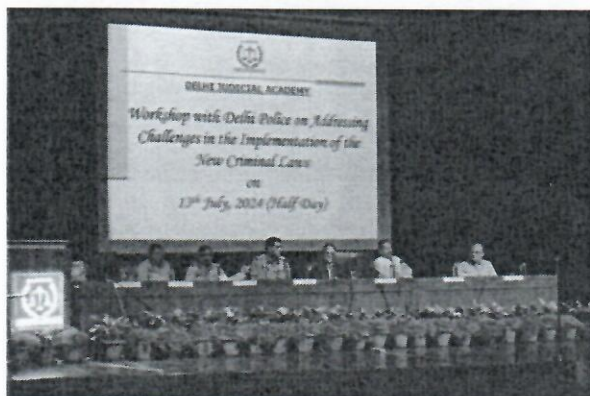
A Conference was organised on 4th May, 2024 for 10 judicial officers on understanding tax evasion in the realm of GST and Income Tax. The prefatory session was conducted by Mr. J.K. Mittal, Advocate and Mr. Raghvendra Pal Singh, IRS (C & IT), Additional Commissioner, GST Policy Wing, Ministry of Finance. The speakers outlined the issues currently plaguing the courts and historical-legal development of the law. They also delved into the legal framework of penal consequences of tax evasion touching upon the Central GST Act, 2017, Income Tax Act, 1961 and the Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act, 2015. A session was also dedicated to discussing cross-border challenges in procuring documents, issues of remand and bail, sanction for prosecution, legal aid and recording of evidence. Participants were apprised of the latest position of law regarding electronic evidence with a focus on its collection, preservation and final disposal. In the last session, a discussion was held with the participants on the guidelines of financial planning and portfolio management.



Mr. Raghvendra Pal Singh, IRS (C&IT) Additional Commissioner, GST Wing, addressing the participants during the Judicial Conference on Tax Regime and Criminal Prosecution on 4th May, 2024.

B.4) Workshop on addressing challenges in the Implementation of the New Criminal Laws

A half day workshop was conducted on 13th July, 2024 in collaboration with the Delhi Police for all officers of the Delhi Higher Judicial Service having criminal jurisdiction and the Chief Judicial Magistrates of Delhi Judicial Service for identifying and addressing challenges in the implementation of the new criminal laws, i.e., Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita ("BNSS") and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam ("BSA"). Sh. Sanjay Bhatia, Additional C.P. Crime, Delhi Police, initiated the first session by demonstrating the e-Praamaan app, which has been developed by the Delhi Police to record and store evidence as per the mandate of BNSS. The Chairman (IT & Digitisation), Delhi District Courts, Sh. Sunil Kumar Sharma also discussed the changes introduced in the CIS to adapt to the framework of the new criminal laws. Hon'ble Ms. Justice Mukta Gupta, Former Judge, High Court of Delhi, addressed the participants in the next session through VC on the issues related to implementation of the new criminal laws and answered the queries posed by the participants, including the queries on the issue of retrospective/prospective application of the new criminal laws, videography of the search and seizure proceedings by police officials, order of investigation in a zero FIR pertaining to an offence committed beyond jurisdiction of the court and procedure of trial of a declared proclaimed offender. Sh. Mohit Mathur, Senior Advocate highlighted the concerns pertaining to collection of digital evidence and maintaining the sanctity thereof, in the new criminal laws. Sh. Vakul Sharma addressed the participants on the requirements pertaining to electronic evidence under the BSA.



Sh. Manmohan Sharma, then Director (Administration), DJA, Sh. Sanjay Arora, IPS, Commissioner of Police, Delhi, Sh. Mohit Mathur, Senior Advocate, Ms. Shalini Singh, Spl. CP Crime, Delhi Police, Ms. Chhaya Sharma, Spl. CP Training, Delhi Police and Sh. Vakul Sharma, Advocate addressing the participants during the Workshop



Sh. Sanjay Bhatia, Additional C.P. Crime, giving a demonstration of the e-Praamaan app on 13th July, 2024.

B.5) Transnational Crimes Workshop

The Academy hosted a 2-day Workshop on Transnational Crimes on 17th August, 2024 and 18th August, 2024; organized by CEELI Institute, Prague / FJC Washington in collaboration with the National Judicial Academy, Bhopal for the training of 25 judicial officers (one participant each having been nominated by each High Court in India) on issues such as money laundering, narcotics, cyber-enabled human trafficking, cyber-crime and digital evidence. All the participants and resource persons stayed at the Judicial Hostel of the Academy during the Workshop.



Sh. Rajesh Kumar Singh, Director (Academics) Delhi Judicial Academy, welcoming Judge Claxton, from FJC/Washington to the Workshop.



Group Photograph of the participants, master trainers, representatives of CEELI Institute, FJC Washington, NJA Bhopal and faculty of DJA.

B.6) Building a Responsive Justice System for the Marginalized

A one-day optional programme for a mixed group of DHJS and DJS officers was organised on 3rd August 2024 to deliberate upon different aspects of creating a responsive justice system. The programme distinctly focussed on different forms of discrimination, both visible and hidden, and understanding the role of courts in enforcing the rights of the persons belonging to the marginalised sector. Dr. Usha Ramanathan addressed the participants on the issue of poverty and law. Further, the significance and ways of writing gender sensitive judgments was also discussed. A thought-provoking documentary 'Mical' was played in the last session for the participants, which dealt with the issues faced by children with dyslexia and the impact of provision of support to them on their gradual integration into the mainstream society.



Sh. Amar Jain, Advocate and Sh. Rahul Bajaj, Advocate addressing the participants during the Programme on promoting accessibility.



Dr. Usha Ramanathan addressing the issue of poverty as a barrier to accessing justice during the Programme on 3rd August, 2024.

B.7) Workshop for Law Graduates yet to enrol at the Bar and Law Students in their Final Year

A two-day workshop was organised for 140 final year students on 11th and 12th September, 2024. The participants were selected from six different universities across Delhi NCR, including National Law University, Delhi; GGSIPU, Dwarka; Campus Law Centre (Delhi University); Vivekanand Institute of Professional Studies; Amity University, Noida and IMS Noida. The prefatory session was addressed by Sh. H.S. Sharma, Former District Judge, Delhi. The discussion focused on the role that the new entrants can play in the legal profession by upholding the constitutional vision of justice and protecting the rights of the people. Another session focused on the intersection of law and technology and how to maintain fairness and equity with the advent of new technology such as Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning etc as well as the required skill set to be honed, to utilise technology to our advantage while furthering the cause of justice. The session was chaired by Sh. Vikas Kumar Jha and Ms. Pallavi Rao, Partners at Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas. Options beyond litigation were also explored. Sh. Harish Dudani, Former Principal Judge, Family Courts and Sh. Reteesh Singh, DHJS explained the implications of ADRs. The intricacies of court craft, conduct and ethics were beautifully interwoven by Senior Advocates Ms. Liz Mathews and Mr. Senthil Jagadeesan. Mr. Naveen Gupta, DHJS and Ms. Namrita Aggarwal, DHJS explained the working of the Legal Aid mechanism and how law graduates, irrespective of whether they intend to work in a law firm, to teach, be in public service, or in practice, can forward the goal of access to justice. Lastly, Advocate Ms. Suriti Chowdhary explained her own journey in the legal profession and underscored the importance of pursuing a LLM and studying the developing fields of technology, AI and privacy. Throughout the Workshop, the resource persons

underscored the importance of maintaining humility and a constant pursuit of knowledge, in the legal profession.



Sh. Naveen Gupta, DHJS, delivering a presentation on legal aid to the participants.



Ms. Liz Matthews, Senior Advocate and Mr. Senthil Jagadeesan, Senior Advocate, delivering their presentation on Court Craft to the participants.

B.8) Orientation Course on Different Dimensions of Cyber Crimes

An optional programme on various aspects of Cyber Laws was conducted on 23rd November, 2024 by the Academy. This programme also catered to the interface between law and technology, which had as its attendees judicial officers from amongst all cadres. It covered issues relating to civil and criminal law as it is applicable in cyberspace and also encouraged deliberation on issues relating to digital evidence, cyberspace jurisdiction and liability of intermediaries.

A session was also undertaken on the ever-changing landscape of cyber offences and disputes including, within its ambit, cyber stalking, data theft, online financial fraud, cybersquatting, phishing, hacking, ransomware, crypto currency etc.

A session specific to identifying best practices for keeping one safe in the cyber space was also conducted. The resource persons for this programme included Mr. Jitender Singh, Mr. Rushi Mehta (both associated with Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C), Ministry of Home Affairs), Dr. Anil Sain, Assistant Professor, Delhi University and Mr. Nisheeth Dixit, Advocate and Cyber Law Consultant.



Dr. Anil Sain addressing the participants during the Orientation Course on 23rd November, 2024.

B.9) DJA Staff Awareness Programme on the Posh Act

In compliance of Section 19 (c) of the POSH Act, a half day training programme was organized for the staff and officials of the Delhi Judicial Academy on 9th January 2025. The first session covered the fundamental aspects of sexual harassment, including its definition and various kinds. The speakers, comprising Prof. (Dr.) Ritu Gupta, Professor of Law at National Law University, New Delhi and Mr. Prashant Sharma, Additional Director, Delhi Judicial Academy, also discussed the do's and don'ts of office communication, the contours of appropriate behaviour with colleagues, the mechanism of filing a sexual harassment complaint and the role of the Internal Complaints Committee. The participants were also apprised of the nature of interim orders which may be passed, the aspects of monetary compensation, conciliation, confidentiality and prosecution for false complaints.

B.10) Optional Programme on Artificial Intelligence

A one day training programme was organised on 29th March 2025 for a mixed group of DHJS and DJS officers on Artificial Intelligence: Transforming the Legal Landscape. This was an optional programme, which was attended by 170 officers. The programme began with an introductory session on the meaning, scope and ambit of Artificial Intelligence and its application in the justice delivery system. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Talwant Singh, Former Judge, Delhi High Court chaired the first session, with Mr. Aman Taneja, Partner, IKIGAI Law as co-speaker and discussed the role of AI in translation, summarising texts,

research, drafting and streamlining administration, and also highlighted the guard rails to be followed while using AI. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Talwant Singh and Mr. Nisheeth Dixit, Advocate & Cyber Consultant, carried forward this discussion in the second session and dealt with the issue of misuse of AI, especially in commission of civil and criminal wrongs, and the complex issues of determination of guilt and personality of AI, which may arise in the near future. Institutional Threats posed by misuse of AI were also discussed. In the post lunch sessions, the best practices to be adopted for ensuring cyber security & data protection, both at an individual level and institutional level were also deliberated upon.



HMJ Talwant Singh, Former Judge, Delhi High Court gracing the prefatory session of the Programme on Artificial Intelligence: Transforming the Legal Landscape on 29th March, 2025.

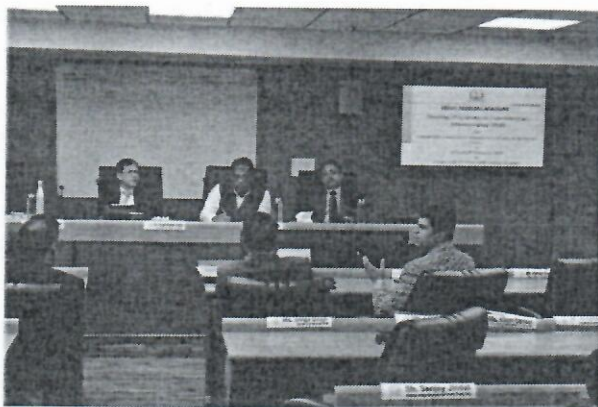


HMJ Talwant Singh, Former Judge, Delhi High Court and Mr. Nisheeth Dixit, Advocate, addressing the queries of the participants during the Programme on 29th March, 2025.

B.11) Training Programme on Supervisory and Administrative Skills

A two-day programme on supervisory and administrative skills was held on the 21st and 22nd February 2025. This programme was designed for Judicial Officers involved in administrative duties in the District Courts. 33 judicial officers, including both DHJS and DJS officers had attended this training programme. The sessions covered core administrative skills, recruitment and promotion, and general administration on day one. The notable speakers included Mr. Vinay Kumar Khanna, Former Principal District & Sessions Judge, Delhi, Mr. Manish Aggarwal, Registrar, Delhi High Court, Mr. K. S. Sachdeva, Freelance Trainer & Joint Director (Retd.), Ministry of Defence and Dr. Tanuja Agarwal, Professor, Faculty of Management Studies, Delhi University. A case study model was used in imparting the training. On the second day, the participants were apprised of the relevant rules and guidelines to be followed in the financial administration, including the procurement of goods. The last two

sessions were dedicated to management of IT Infrastructure, differently-abled friendly court infrastructure and dealing with RTIs. The resource persons for the second day included Mr. Jay Thareja, Joint Registrar (CPC), Delhi High Court, Mr. Sunil Kumar Sharma, Chairman (IT & Digitisation), Delhi District Courts, Mr. Kush Tyagi, Training and Communications (GeM-SPV), Delhi, Mr. Ajay Mehrol, Drawing & Disbursing Officer, THC and Captain Yogendra Pratap Sharma, Senior Research Fellow & Deputy Director, National Maritime Foundation (NMF) & Ex-Additional Director, ISTM.



Participants interacting with the Resource Person and Faculty during the Programme on 21st February, 2025.

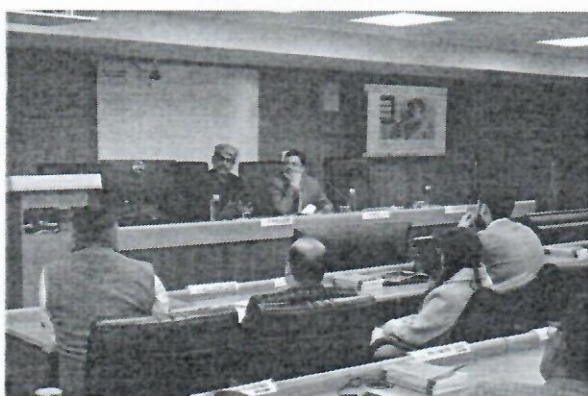


Mr. Jay Thareja, DHJS, apprising the participants of the developments in ECourts Project during the programme on 22nd February, 2025.

B.12) In Focus: Child Rights and Building a Robust Juvenile Justice System

A one-day orientation course on the functioning of JJB and the core provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2015, for a mixed group of Principal Magistrates, Social Workers, Public prosecutors of JJBs and Special Juvenile Police Unit Officers was held on 18th January 2025. The intricacies of age inquiry and bail under the JJ Act were deliberated upon in the first session, chaired by Mr. Anant Kumar Asthana, Advocate and Child Rights Activist. The role of JJB in ensuring access to justice, dealing with vulnerable witnesses and persons with disability was also deliberated upon. In the second session, the challenges in the implementation of the POCSO Act, including aspect of custody and victim compensation, were discussed by Mr. Atul Ahlawat, DHJS. The third session involved focused deliberations on the manner of inquiry by the JJB against the CCL and the possible outcomes of the said inquiry. The need for rehabilitation and use of alternatives to detention, was emphasised. In the last session, Ms. Geentanjali Goel, DHJS deliberated on the procedure to be adopted where the CCL is also found to be a CNCP. The

programme ended with a discussion on the mandatory guidelines issued in the circulated judgments by the Supreme Court and the High Court, in the form of a QR code based quiz. A simultaneous programme was also held for Chairperson and Members of CWC and officials of the District Child Protection Unit on the said date. In the first session, the functions of CWC, such as assessment of child as CNCP, conducting age inquiry, and declaration of a child as legally free for adoption were discussed, alongwith the best practices for dealing with children with disability, by Ms. Bharti Ali, Co-founder HAQ. In the second session, the role of CWC under the POCSO Act and the intricate issues pertaining to custody and implementation of the policies of the Government was deliberated upon by Ms. Tanvi Khurana, DHJS. Ms. Sampurna Behura, Director - Legal, Bachpan Bachao Andolan addressed the participants on the role and responsibility of the CWC in rescue and rehabilitation of children forced into labour. The last session conducted by Md. Salam Khan, Social Worker, dealt with the ideal content and format of orders to be written by the CWCs.



Mr. Anant Asthana, Advocate & Child Rights Activist and Mohd. Farrukh, Director (Administration), Delhi Judicial Academy addressing the participants during the Orientation Course on 13th January, 2025.

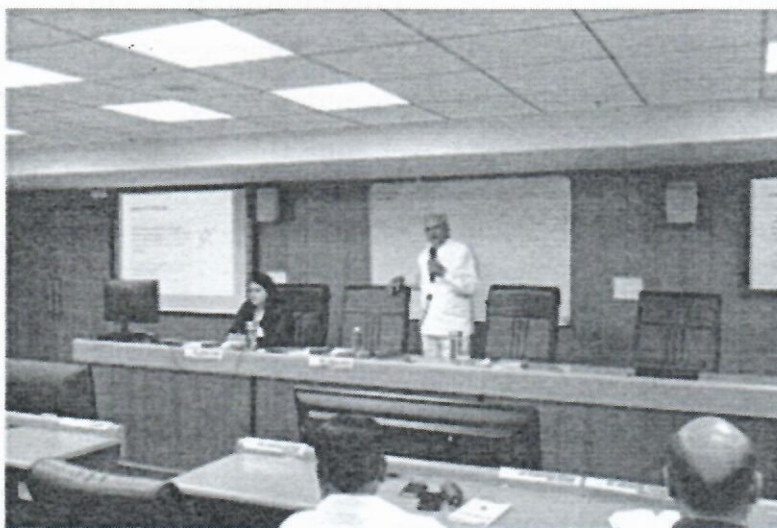


Ms. Geetanjali Goel, DHJS and Mr. Rajesh Kumar Singh, Director (Academics) cum Chairperson (Officiating), Delhi Judicial Academy, sharing relevant anecdotes during the Orientation Course.

B.13) Workshop on Constitutional Requirements for Special Executive Magistrates

A one day workshop was conducted for Special Executive Magistrates exercising powers under Section 126/170 BNSS on 29th March 2025, in compliance with the guidelines of Delhi High Court in *Aldanish Rein v. State of NCT of Delhi*. The Workshop commenced with Mr. Rajiv Jain, IPS (Retd.), tracing the evolution of the rights at the time of preventive arrest from the

International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, 1966, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948 to the Constitution of India. Thereafter, Mr. Pulastya Pramachala, DHJS, shared the best practices to be followed while dealing with an application under Section 126 BNSS and preventive arrest under Section 170 BNSS.



Mr. Rajiv Jain, IPS (Retd.) addressing the participants on Article 22 of the Constitution during the Workshop

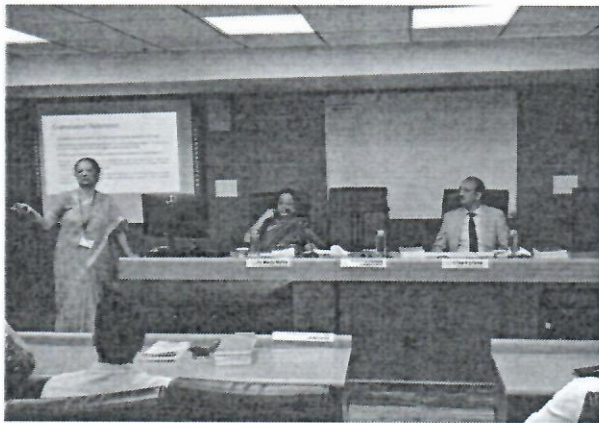
B.14) Training of Medical Professionals

This one-day training programme was conducted on 20th March 2025 for the doctors from NCT of Delhi, in view of suggestions and recommendations received during the National Annual Stakeholders Consultation on Child Protection held under the aegis of Supreme Court of India in December, 2022 and September, 2023. The programme addressed the role of doctors in the counselling of the victim, best practices to be followed while interacting with victims of sexual offence, collecting samples for DNA profiling and other forensic examination and conducting medical examination of the victim. The last session was dedicated to the norms to be followed in the preparation of the Medico-Legal Report.

The speakers for the programme included Dr. Rachana Bhargava and Dr. Manju Mehta, both Professors of Clinical Psychology at AIIMS, New Delhi; and Dr. Sanjeev Lalwani, Professor/ Registrar Academic at AIIMS, Delhi.

In view of the request received from the Health Department, Government of NCT of Delhi, an awareness training programme on the New Criminal Laws was conducted for 350 doctors of NCT of Delhi (who are onboarded on MedLEaPR) in two batches on 26th - 27th March 2025. The half-day training

programme dealt with the key changes introduced by the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, Bharatiya Nagarik Surakhsha Sanhita, 2023, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023, relevant to medical professionals, especially relating to the newly introduced bodily offences, the format of certificate to prove digital evidence, procedures introduced to ensure transparency and enhancement of victim rights, new procedure for registration of FIR, amongst others. The changes introduced to the offence of medical negligence were also discussed. The speakers for the session included Mr. Atul Ahlawat, DHJS, Mr. Ajay Verma, Advocate and Mr. Nisheeth Dixit, Advocate and Cyber Law Consultant.



Dr. Rachna Bharghava discussing the relevance of victim examination during the Conference on 20th March, 2025.



Mr. Ajay Verma discussing the ambit of medical negligence during the programme

Conclusion:

The Delhi Judicial Academy envisions strengthening the administration of justice through judicial education, training, research and policy development. It aims to sensitize judicial officers for enabling social context adjudication. With that outlook, Delhi Judicial Academy plans to organize more programmes in the coming year.