

Access to Justice NE&JK Project

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Access to Justice (NE&JK) Project about?

The Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India has been implementing a project since 2012 on enhancing Access to Justice in all the eight States of Northeast including Sikkim and Jammu and Kashmir. These are the two separate geographical areas which are the focus of the Project. The project aims to make Justice accessible to the marginalised sections of the society. The project aims to train lawyers, law students and customary judicial officers to raise awareness among people about their legal rights. It is hoped that the project will be a milestone in establishing a model of access to justice in remote areas of North East Region and Jammu & Kashmir.

When and Why Access to Justice-NE& JK project was conceived?

The Access to Justice-NE&JK project was conceived in 12th Five Year Plan, to venture in those regions of the Country which have so far been under-represented and unheard in the arena and discourses of Access to Justice.

What is the duration of the project?

The duration of the Access to Justice NE&JK project is five years i.e from 2012 to 2017

What is the geographic focus of the Project?

On the basis of the learning of the Access to Justice project of GoI-UNDP, it was decided to expand the geographical and thematic scope of the activities and implement the project in the most marginalised and backward areas and therefore the program is being implemented in eight states of north east India including Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura and the state of Jammu & Kashmir.

Who all are partners of the project?

United Nations Development Programme, National Literacy Mission Authority, National and State Legal Services Authorities, various civil society organizations, universities etc. are the partners of the project.

What are the objectives of the Project?

The project focuses on strengthening access to justice for the poor and vulnerable sections of the society, particularly women, children, Scheduled Castes, Tribal communities etc. through developing strategies and initiatives that address the barriers they face in accessing justice in legal, social, economic and political domains. The primary outcome of the project will be the increased ability of the vulnerable groups to access rights and seek redress and of the services providers to deliver justice in conformity with constitutional and legal mandates.

The project seeks to support key justice service providers to enable them to effectively serve the marginalized groups. It also aims to support innovative activities to enhance legal awareness of the vulnerable populations and their ability to demand rights and seek redress.