

**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY,
CUTTACK**

Advertisement No. LADCS-02/2025 Date: 25th June,2025

*(The Candidates who had already applied in the earlier LADC
Advertisement No. 01/2025, dated 10.05.2025 need not apply it again.)*

**FURTHER ADVSERTISEMENT INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR THE POST OF
CHIEF LEGAL AID DEFENSE COUNSEL, DEPUTY CHIEF LEGAL AID DEFENCE
COUNSEL, ASSISTANT LEGAL AID DEFENSE COUNSEL, FOR “LEGAL AID
DEFENSE COUNSEL SYSTEM” IN CONTINUATION TO THE EARLIER LADC
ADVERTISEMENT DATED 10.05.2025.**

LAST DATE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATION 16.07.2025

Applications in the prescribed formant are invited from the eligible lawyers having requisite qualification for contractual full time engagement for the post of Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel, Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel and Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel of Cuttack district headquarter on contract basis initially for a period of two years with a stipulation of extension on early basis. The Lawyers so engaged therein will not be allowed to take any other private cases or any other retainership. Interested candidates are advised to submit original experience certificate along with self attested copies of the certificates in support of their age, Adhar Card , educational qualification , enrolment certificate issued by Bar Council, Photo Identity Card, Address Proof, ITR for last 3 years, photocopies of judgement in 5 sessions cases, represented as defense lawyer (for the post of Chief/Deputy Legal Aid Counsel), Photocopies of at least 5 cross-examination Sessions cases (for Chief/Deputy Legal Aid Defense Counsel) in a self addressed duly stamped sealed envelope superscribed as **“APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF CHIEF/DEPUTY CHIEF LEGAL AID DEFENCE COUNSEL/ASSISTANT LEGAL AID DEFENCE COUNSEL”** to the office of the **“SECRETARY, DISTRICT LEGAL**

SERVICES AUTHORITY,CUTTACK, CIVIL COURT PREMISES, CHANDINI CHOWK, CUTTACK, PIN-753002” by the Regd / Speed Post on or before latest **by 5.00 P.M of 16.07.2025.**

N.B. 1. The Candidates applying for the post of Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall superscribe “ Application for the post of Chief Legal Aid Defence Counsel and similarly the candidates applying for the post of Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel and Assistant Legal Aid Counsel shall superscribe accordingly.

2. Authority reserves its right to reject incomplete application or applications for want of furnishing full information as per the notification or if it is found that the information furnished are false .

The scheme of engagement along with application form may be downloaded from the official website of District Court, Cuttack and also be obtained from the notice board of DLSA, Cuttack.

1. Vacancy of Posts :

Sl. No.	Posts called for	No. of vacancy (at Cuttack)
1.	Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel	01
2.	Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel	03
3.	Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel	03

2. Qualifications :

a) Qualifications for Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel:

- Practice in Criminal law for at least 10 years,
- Excellent oral and written communication skills,
- Excellent understanding of criminal law,
- Thorough understanding of ethical duties of a defense counsel,
- Ability to work effectively and efficiently with others with capability to lead,

- Must have handled at least 30 criminal trials in Sessions Courts, aforesaid condition of handling of 30 criminal cases can be relaxed in appropriate circumstances,
- Knowledge of computer system, preferable.
- Quality to lead the team with capacity to manage the office.

b) Qualifications for Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel:

- Practice in Criminal law for at least 7 years,
- Excellent understanding of criminal law,
- Excellent oral and written communication skills,
- Skill in legal research,
- Thorough understanding of ethical duties of defense counsel,
- Ability to work effectively and efficiently with others,
- Must have handled at least 20 criminal trials in Sessions Courts, may be relaxed in exceptional circumstances, by Hon'ble executive Chairman, SLSA,
- IT Knowledge with proficiency in work.

c) Qualification for Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel:

- Practice in criminal law from 1 to 3 years.
- Good oral and written communication skills.
- Thorough understanding of ethical duties of defense counsel.
- Ability to work effectively and efficiently with others.
- Excellent writing and research skills.
- IT Knowledge with proficiency in work.

Note: Qualifications may be reasonably relaxed in case of exceptional candidates or circumstances with the approval of the Executive Chairman SLSA.

3. Fixed monthly Honorarium :

1.	Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel	₹80,000
2.	Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel	₹60,000
3.	Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel	₹35,000

4. List of Documents to be attached:

The applications complete in all respects accompanied with:

1. Self attested copy of certificate in support of education qualification.
2. Self attested copy of certificate in Enrolment issued by the Bar Council under the Advocates Act, 1961.
3. Self attested copy of photo identity card, address proof.
4. Self attest copy of ITR for last 3 years (if available).
5. Photocopies of judgements in 5 Sessions Cases, represented as defense lawyer (for the post of Chief/ Deputy Legal Aid Counsel).
6. Photocopies of at least 5 cross-examination Sessions Cases (for Chief/ Deputy Legal Aid Defense Counsel).

5. Selection Procedure:

After due publicity including public notice, applications shall be invited and a fair, transparent and competitive selection process shall be adopted by DLSA under guidance of SLSA. Legal Aid Defense Counsels shall be engaged on contract basis at Cuttack headquarter for a period of two years with a stipulation of extension on yearly basis on satisfactory performance. The performance of each legal aid defense counsel shall be assessed in every six months by SLSA in consultation with DLSA concerned. Selection of Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel, Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsels, Assistant Legal Aid Defense

Counsels will be purely based on merit, taking into account the knowledge, skills, practice and experience of candidates. The Selection shall be carried out by the selection committee under the Chairmanship of the Principal District & Sessions Judge, Cuttack (Chairman, DLSA) as envisaged in NALSA (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulations 2010, subject to final approval by the Executive Chairman, OLSA. After approval by the Executive Chairman, SLSA, engagement contract will be executed between the Secretary DLSA and the person so engaged.

6. Scope of Work:

Legal Aid Defense Counsel Office shall be dealing exclusively with legal aided matters in criminal matters of the District or HQ, wherein it is established. It shall be providing legal services from the early stages of criminal justice till appellate stage, and the same shall include visits to jails from catering to the legal needs of unrepresented inmates. Initially it shall not be dealing with all type of civil matters and cases of complainant, wherein present counsel assignment system (Panel Lawyers) will continue to be operational. The following end to end legal services shall be provided through the Legal Aid Defense Counsel office.

- Legal Advice and Assistance to all individuals visiting the office,
- Representation/Conducting trial and appeals including all miscellaneous work in all criminal courts such as Sessions, Special and Magistrate Courts including executive courts,
- Handling Remand and Bail work,
- Providing legal assistance at pre-arrest stage as per need and also in accordance with NALSA's scheme for providing such assistance,
- Any other legal aided work related to District Courts or as assigned by the Secretary DLSA,

- Periodic visit of Prisons of the district under the guidance of the Secretary, DLSA.

7. Work Profiles :

a) Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel

- Conducting trials and appeals and bail matters in courts along with deputy chief & assistant legal Aid Defense Counsels,
- Assigning duties to deputy legal Aid Defense Counsels in the office,
- Assigning duties of Assistant legal Aid Defense Counsel for assisting him and Deputy Chief legal Aid Defense Counsel and for other work including legal research,
- Ensure proper legal research, planning effective defense strategy and thorough preparation in each and every legal aided case,
- Ensure maintenance of complete files of legal aid seekers,
- Ensure proper documentation with regard to legal aid assistance provided, ensure maintaining of up to date record of legal aided cases,
- Will be overall in charge of administration the office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel Office.
- Ensure quality of legal aid,
- Consultation and ensuring updation of the case progress to the client and his/her relative(s),
- Any work/duty assigned by Legal Services Authority.

b) Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel.

- Conducting trials /appeals /Remand work/Bail applications/visits to prisons etc., as assigned by Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel.
- Filing and arguing appeals and bail applications in Courts.
- Maintaining complete case files.
- Doing legal research in legal aided cases and guiding assistant legal Aid Defense Counsel and law students attached with the office in legal research.

- Proper client interviews at various stages for quality research work and representation at remand, trial and appellate stage.
- All or any of the work of the Chief defense Counsel as per assignment,
- Any work/duty assigned by Legal Services Authority.

c) Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel.

- Filing of cases, conducting trials in Magistrate trial cases,
 - Remand/bail and other miscellaneous work,
 - legal research in legal aided cases,
 - Visits to Prison and Legal aid Clinics as per directions,
 - Providing assistance at pre-arrest stage to suspects,
 - Assisting Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel and Deputy Legal Aid Defense Counsel in conduct of legal aided cases,
 - Assisting in developing a defense strategy after sifting through all of the evidence collected by the prosecution and after hearing the accused's version of what happened during the alleged crime in question,
 - Visiting location/area of alleged crime, having discussions with family members etc , for effective and meaningful input for defense strategy,
 - Handling queries of legal aid seekers,
 - Updating legal aid seekers about the progress of their cases,
 - Assisting in maintaining complete files of legal aided cases,
 - Handling legal queries relating to criminal matters on telephone,
 - Any other work related to legal aid assigned by Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel,
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- Any work/duty assigned by Legal Services Authority,

8. Code of Ethics:

Personnel engaged in the office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall observe the following code of ethics:

- No personnel shall act in any matter in which he/she has a direct or indirect personal or financial interest.
- No personnel shall wilfully disclose or use, whether or not for the purpose of pecuniary gain, any information that he/she obtained, received or acquired during the fulfilment of his/her official duties and which is not available to members of the general public.
- No personnel within the office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall make use of his/her office or employment for the purpose of promoting or advertising any outside activity.
- No personnel within the office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall engage in any outside activity or act as an independent practitioner.
- No personnel within the office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall solicit, agree to accept or accept, whether directly or indirectly, any gift, favour, service, or other thing of value under circumstances from which it might be reasonably
- inferred that such gift, service, or other thing of value was given or offered for the purpose of influencing him/her in, or rewarding him/her for, the discharge of his/her official duties.
- Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall devote his/her full time to his/her duties for the office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel and shall not engage in private practice of law during the term of employment.

- Every Personnel of the office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall strive to preserve the public's confidence in the office's fair and impartial execution of its duties and responsibilities.

- Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall also follow the code of ethics prescribed by Bar Council of India for lawyers.

9. Entitlement to Leave:

- Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel and Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall be eligible for 15 days' leave in a calendar year on pro-rata basis.
- Assistant Counsel Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall be eligible for 12 days' leave in a calendar year on pro-rata basis.
- No remuneration for the period of absence in excess of the admissible leave will be paid to the human resource of Legal Aid Defense Counsel Office.
- Un-availed leave shall neither be carried forward to next year nor encashed.

10. Termination of Services:

Services of any legal aid defense counsel engaged in the office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel can be terminated at any time without any prior notice in the following cases by the Chairman, DLSA on recommendation of the Secretary DLSA or on directions by SLSA in writing:

- i. He/she substantially breaches any duty or service required in the office, or
- ii. Seeks or accepts any pecuniary gains or gratification in cash or kind from the legal aid seekers or beneficiary or his friend or relative, or
- iii. Charged or Convicted for any offence by any court of law, or
- iv. Indulges in any type of political activities, or
- v. Found incapable of rendering professional services of the required standards,
or
- vi. Failure to attend training programmes without any sufficient cause, or
- vii. Indulges in activities prejudicial to the working of legal aid defense counsel office, or

- viii. Using his/her position in legal aid defense counsel office to secure unwarranted privileges or advantages for him/herself or others, or
- ix. Acts in breach of code of ethics, or
- x. Remains absent without leave for more than two weeks, or
- xi. If services are found unsatisfactory during the six monthly performance review by the SLSA or DLSA.

Applying for engagement does not create any right/assurance whatsoever.

**Sd/-
Chairman,
District Legal Services Recruitment Committee,
Cuttack**