

Legal Advocacy Efforts and Legal Interventions

As the legal workload increased, the need for additional legal experts was felt. Thus, Mr. Sumit Kumar Singh was recruited as Retainer Legal for looking into the ongoing legal proceedings and incidental matters in various High Court and other Courts. Active team of two dedicated Lawyers' (Adv. Ramesh Kumar Mishra & Mr. Sumit Kumar Singh) intensified the struggle for a national law for street vendors. In this process an eminent lawyer Mr. Prashant Bhushan gave a positive opinion in favor of national law with rational and reasoning. In addition, retired judge A.P.Shah was also approached for legal opinion, who assured NASVI for a legal opinion very soon.

The team also finalized the draft of Model Bill titled the Street Vendors (Protection and Promotion of Livelihood) Bill, 2011. The same was also uploaded in the website of NASVI. Further, the law team is also constantly approaching the state governments emphasizing the need of law as per the direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court. As a significant development the state of Andhra Pradesh had invited our lawyers' to assist them in formulation of draft of the state law for street vendors.

Moreover the team is actively involved in the court cases and legal battles pending in different courts of India. Recently the team filed a PIL in the Patna High Court against the arbitrary action of Patna Municipal Corporation allocating tender for collection of toll from vendors of Meena Bazaar area of Rajendra Nagar colony, Patna.

A PIL has also been filed in the High Court of Delhi against the order of Public Grievance Commission directing MCD to remove a portion of stretch in the Weekly Monday Bazaar at Madhu Vihar, Delhi.

Preparation of law hand book for street vendors was assigned to the legal team. In this regard, first regional workshop was organized in Bangalore on 27th of March, 2011. In the workshop advocates were invited who agreed to share case information, pleadings and judgments in the public interest. The second regional workshop is scheduled in Patna on 17th of April. These two regional workshops would culminate in a National Workshop to be held in Delhi on 15th May, 2011.

Besides, the legal team has also helped several member organizations based in Delhi in registering their organization with the Registrar at Delhi so that they can work effectively.