

Workshop on Speedy Disposal of Criminal Cases

A State level workshop on “Speedy Disposal of Criminal Cases – Operational Strategies to Curtail Procedural Delays at All Levels” was organized today under the auspices of Haryana State Legal Services Authority at CII Auditorium, Sector 31, Chandigarh. It was inaugurated by Hon’ble Mr. Justice Vijender Jain, Chief Justice, Punjab and Haryana High Court and was attended by Hon’ble Mr. Justice J.S. Khehar, Judge, Punjab and Haryana High Court; Hon’ble Mr. Justice A.K.Goel, Chairman, Haryana Legal Services Authority; Hon’ble Mr. Justice Ajai Lamba, Judge, Punjab and Haryana High Court; Mr.H.S.Hooda, Advocate General, Haryana; Mr.K.S.Bhoria, Home Secretary, Haryana; Mr.Ranjiv Dalal, DGP, Haryana; all the District and Sessions Judges; Chief Judicial Magistrates; District Attorneys and Police Chiefs of Haryana.

Speaking on the occasion, Hon’ble Mr. Justice Vijender Jain, Chief Justice said that it is the first meet of its kind wherein stake-holders would deliberate on the speedy disposal of criminal cases. Hon’ble the Chief Justice also described the workshop as a historic meet and said that there is an urgent need to change the mindset by the stake-holders. Hon’ble the Chief Justice said that we are now governed by rule of law and as such, it is necessary that all the stake-holders should ensure that everything proceeds as per law. Hon’ble the Chief Justice also directed all the District and Sessions Judges and Police Officers to monitor the progress of pending cases at their levels and suggested to evolve strategies to dispose of the oldest cases on priority basis. However, the Chief Justice cautioned against mania of disposal by the judicial officers and pointed out that it should not be at the cost of cause of justice.

Earlier, in an informal address to all the District and Sessions Judges and Chief Judicial Magistrates from Haryana at the High Court Conference Room, Hon’ble the Chief Justice impressed upon them to observe punctuality and to sensitize themselves to the problems of the litigants. Hon’ble the Chief Justice pointed out that Judicial Officers are not Government Officers

and they owe their existence to the Constitution and as such, they are functionaries of the Constitution. People expect higher standards from them. Hon'ble the Chief Justice also emphasized that the strength of the judiciary lies in the people's faith in its functioning and in case, the faith of the litigants is shaken, the very existence of the institution would be affected.