



TAMIL NADU STATE JUDICIAL ACADEMY

The Workshop on Recording and Appreciation of Evidence & Judgment Writing for the Civil Judges of 2015 Batch

Event Report

The two day Workshop on Recording and Appreciation of Evidence & Judgment Writing for the Civil Judges of 2015 Batch was conducted at Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy, Regional Centre, Madurai on 30th and 31st of July 2022.

Workshop on Recording and Appreciation of Evidence & Judgment Writing was divided into four fundamental areas of training, after assessing the judgments received by TNSJA from the Judicial Officers before the commencement of the workshop. The emphasis was supplied on the following four areas,

1. Framing of Charges (Practical Training – Activity),
2. Framing of Issues (Practical Training – Activity),
3. Dos and Don'ts on Recording of Evidence (Practical Training – Mock Court),
4. Appreciation of Evidence (Issue based activity)

Each fundamental area of the reflective training programme for the week comprised of; 1. Interactive session with the Director and Resource Person, 2. Practical sessions, and 3. Evaluation session by the Director and his team comprising of Deputy Directors.

Day 1 (30/07/2022)

The Workshop commenced with the invocation song “தமிழ்த்தாய் வாழ்த்து”. The Welcome address for the Workshop was delivered by Mr. S. P. Rishi Roshan, Deputy Director, TNSJA, Regional Centre, Coimbatore. He welcomed the participants and the resource person and gave a brisk start for the two-day workshop.



Thereafter, the scope and objective of the workshop was delivered by Mr. D. Lingeswaran, Director TNSJA. The Director highlighted that, the prime object of the training programme was to have a constructive and critical reflection for the participating judicial officers to introspect, reflect and share amongst their peers,

which would in turn promote endurance in their work.

The first session of the workshop was on “Framing of issues” by resource person, Mr. M. Vallinayagam, Senior Advocate, Madurai. The resource person clearly and in detail explained the art of framing issues. He referred to the provisions of Civil Procedure Code and elaborately discussed the



framing of issue. He also emphasised that, issues should not be borrowed from the prayer of plaint and written statement.



After a short tea break, the next session was on framing of charges. The Director of the Academy firstly, set the tone for the day by asking questions about framing of charges. The Director explained in detail about the art of framing of charges with the relevant provisions of Criminal Procedure Code. Then there was a practical activity where, model cases were displayed for which the participants had to frame charges.



The model questions were handpicked by the Director and his team comprising of the Deputy Directors from few of the judgments submitted by the participants. After displaying each question, the participants were to frame charges and there was a discussion on the charges framed. Wherever the

participants found difficulties, the Director gave his suggestions. The participants asked few doubts on framing of charges which were duly clarified.



Later, there was a discussion on the issues framed by the participants. Wherever the participants found difficulties, the resource person along the Director gave his suggestions. The participants asked few doubts which were duly clarified.



In the post lunch session, a mock court was set-up and the participants adorned the Bench as an actual Court. The Director along with his team played the roles of prosecutor, defence counsel, witnesses etc. Each judicial officer was given a chance to play the role of the presiding officer of the Mock Court. The participants were given on the spot feedback and corrections by the Director.



The main objective of conducting the Mock Court was to improve the quality in recording of evidence, handling of court and deciding the admissibility of the evidence tendered.



At the end of the day the Judicial Officers were given an exercise to write a judgment with the depositions recorded during the

mock court activity, along with other case materials shared to them through e-platforms. Participants were asked to submit their judgments through e-mail, which would then be evaluated for understanding the learning curve of conducting the workshop.

Day 2 (03/07/2022)



On the second day of the two day workshop, the first session was on 'Appreciation of Evidence', where participating judicial officers were showcased with questions based on the critical issues found after reviewing the judgments submitted by them. The Director

and his team reviewed the judgments of the judicial officers and identified the critical problems and slipups which was modulated into multiple choice questions and placed before the judicial officers for discussion. The Discussion was moderated by the Director.



The interactive quiz involved multiple choice questions. The premise for each question was derived from the issues dealt with by judicial officers in their work. The questions were shared to the participants as a Google Form link. The participants were given a time limit of 2 minutes within which they had to submit their responses. Once all participants had submitted their responses, the Director opened the floor for discussion. Participants were asked to share the different answers they had given and their reason for choosing their answer. After an elaborate discussion, when the participants reached a consensus, the right answer was displayed.



This exercise was repeated for the entire session comprising of 23 questions. The objective of the exercise was to guide the participants towards the correct answer, through their own discussion, instead of displaying the

correct answer right-away. The utility of the exercise was to clarify any dilemmas participants face in appreciation of evidence.



In the post lunch session, the Director and his team comprising of Deputy Directors, informed the participants about the critical errors apparent in the judgments submitted by them for evaluation. Comments and suggestions were given to the participants based on the evaluation of the activity submitted by them. The Director and his team also discussed many of the errors which were common in the participants' judgments and guided them to rectify the same.



Some of the participants gave their individual feedback and their take away message from the Workshop.



The two day work shop concluded with Mrs. D. Shoba Devi, Assistant Director TNSJA, Chennai proposing the Vote of Thanks. She thanked the resource persons, participants, and staff for making the programme a grand success.

The participants thanked the Director and his team for conducting such a workshop.


